



# GREAT FREEDOM FIGHTERS

• Lokamanya Tilak • Mahatma Gandhi • Veer Savarkar • Subhas Chandra Bose • Bhagat Singh





**The route to your roots**

## **LOKAMANYA TILAK**

'Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it' -- this clarion call was given by Bal Gangadhar Tilak. He was a towering figure in the Indian Independence movement. A nationalist to the core, he believed strongly that modern education would inculcate patriotism and self-respect in the people. His inspiring speeches and writing landed Tilak in jail several times. But this did not dampen his spirit or will to cast off the yoke of foreign rule from his motherland.

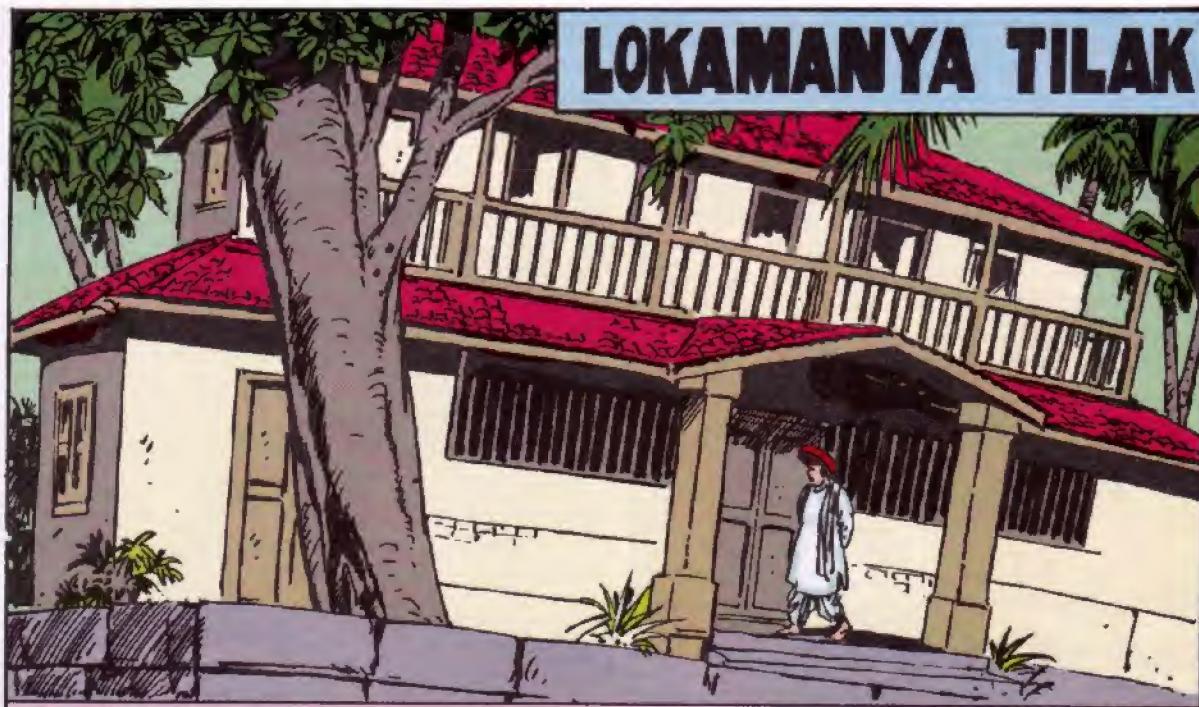
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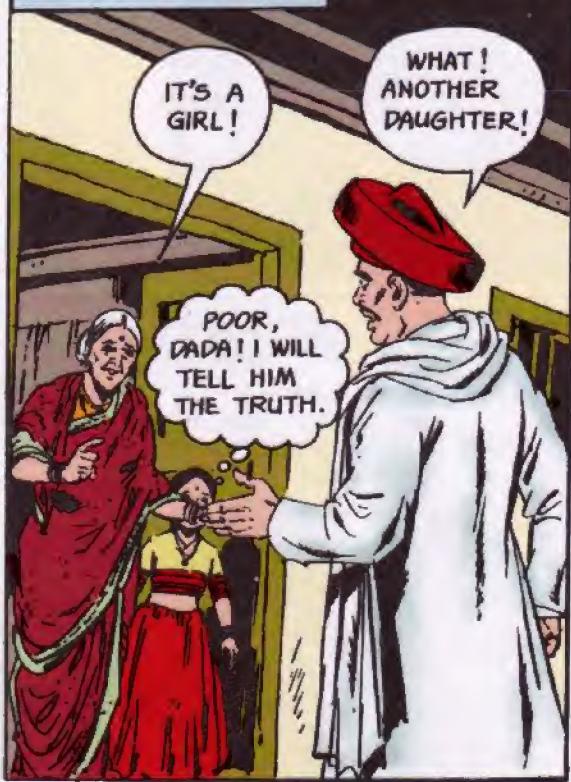
*Cover illustration by: P. G. Sirur*

# LOKAMANYA TILAK



ON JULY 23, 1856, GANGADHAR PANT TILAK, THE HEADMASTER OF THE LOCAL MARATHI SCHOOL IN RATNAGIRI, WAS PACING UP AND DOWN THE VERANDA OF HIS HOUSE. HIS WIFE WAS ABOUT TO HAVE A BABY.

HE HAD THREE DAUGHTERS, BUT LIKE OTHER PARENTS OF HIS TIME HE LONGED FOR A SON.

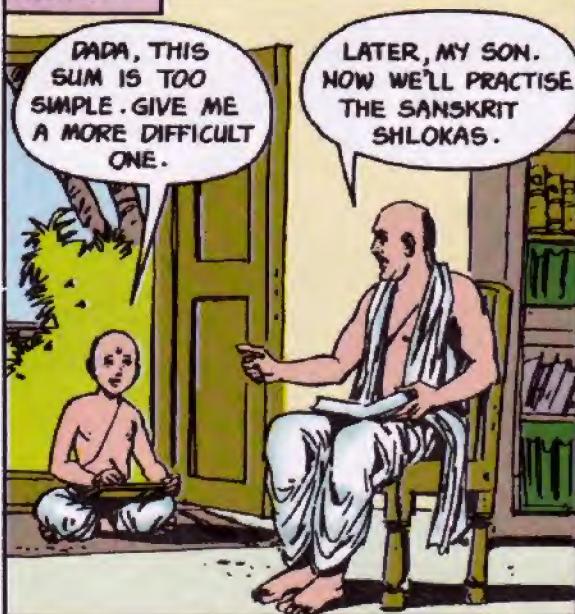


AUNTY'S TEASING YOU, DADA! IT'S A BOY!  
YES, IT IS. BUT DON'T BE JUBILANT AND INVITE BAD LUCK.  
OH! HOW SUPERSTITIOUS CAN YOU GET! LIKE WHOM DOES HE LOOK?

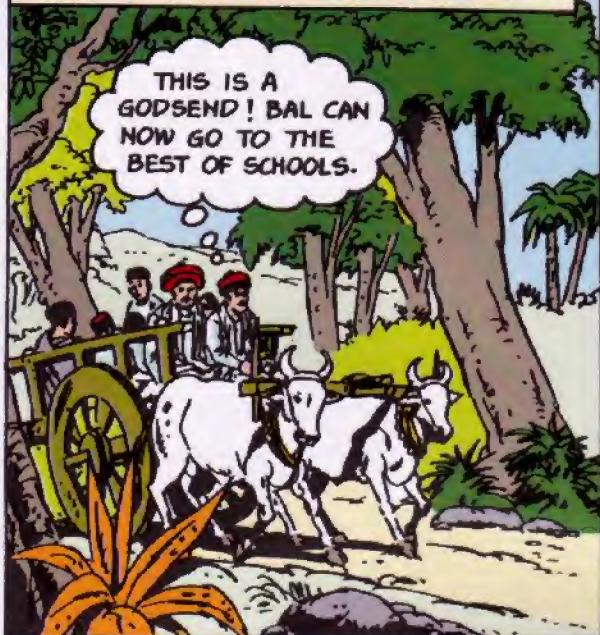


WHOEVER HE LOOKED LIKE, THE CHILD, BAL GANGADHAR TILAK, WAS DESTINED TO BECOME GREAT

BAL HAD HIS EARLY EDUCATION AT HOME, UNDER THE STRICT SUPERVISION OF HIS FATHER.



WHEN BAL WAS TEN YEARS OLD, HIS FATHER WAS TRANSFERRED TO PUNE.



SHORTLY AFTER THEY CAME TO PUNE, BAL'S MOTHER DIED. IT WAS HIS AUNT WHO NOW LOOKED AFTER HIM.



BAL WAS NO DOUBT INTELLIGENT. BUT HE WAS, TO HIS TEACHER'S ANNOYANCE, EQUALLY STUBBORN. ONE DAY AT SCHOOL —



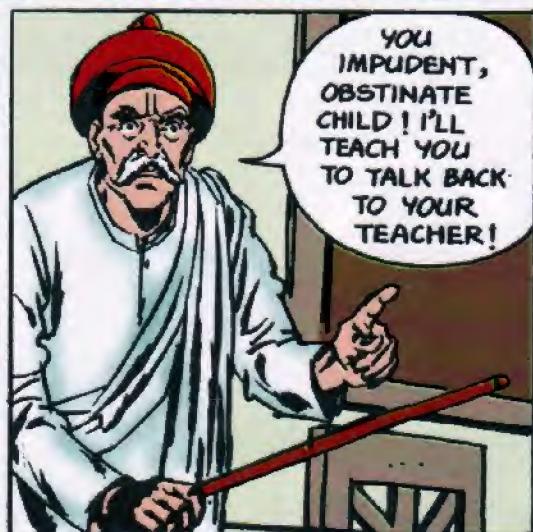
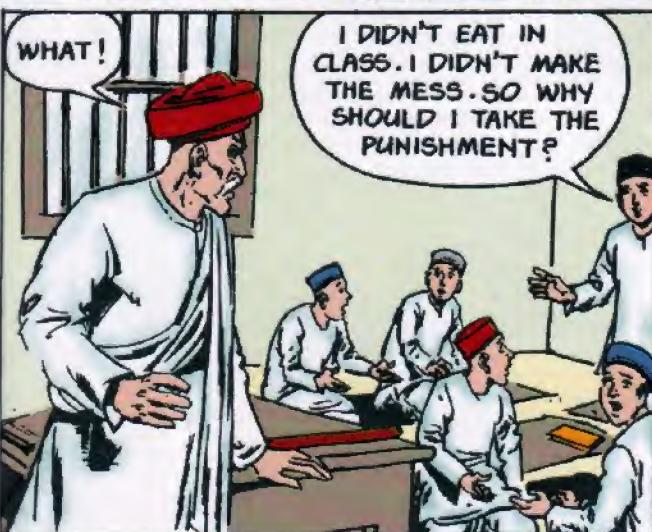
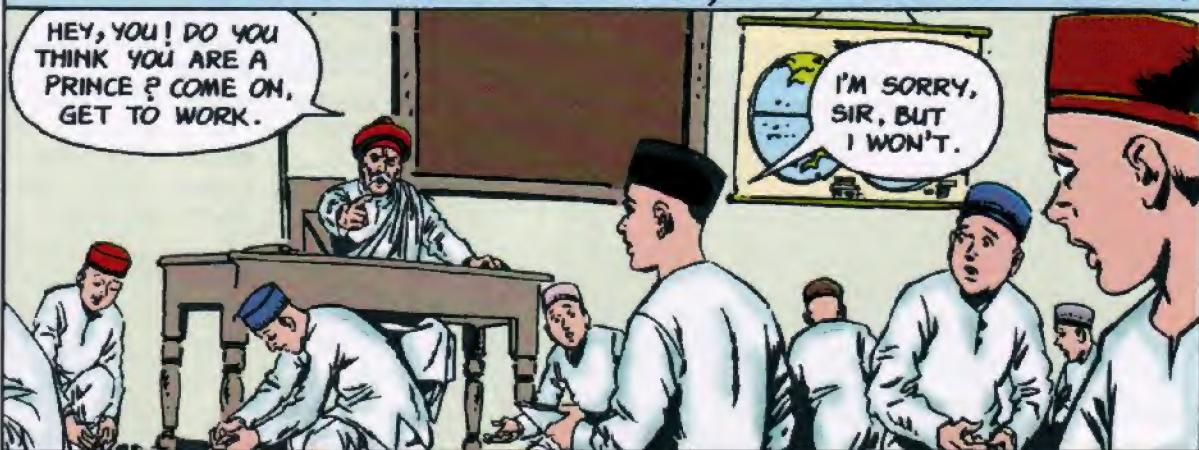
THE TEACHER ENTERED AND TOOK ONE LOOK AT THE CLASS.

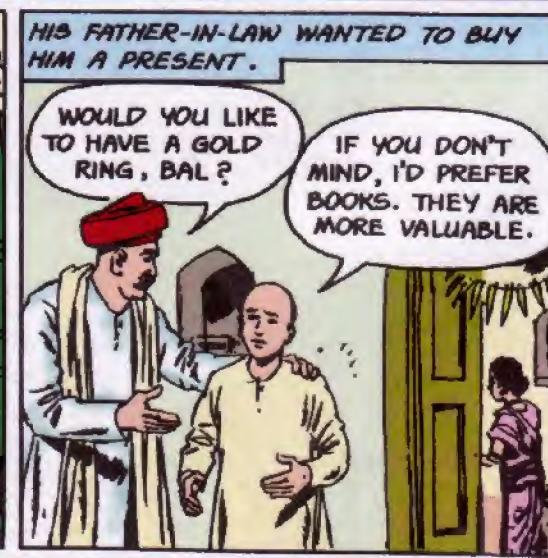
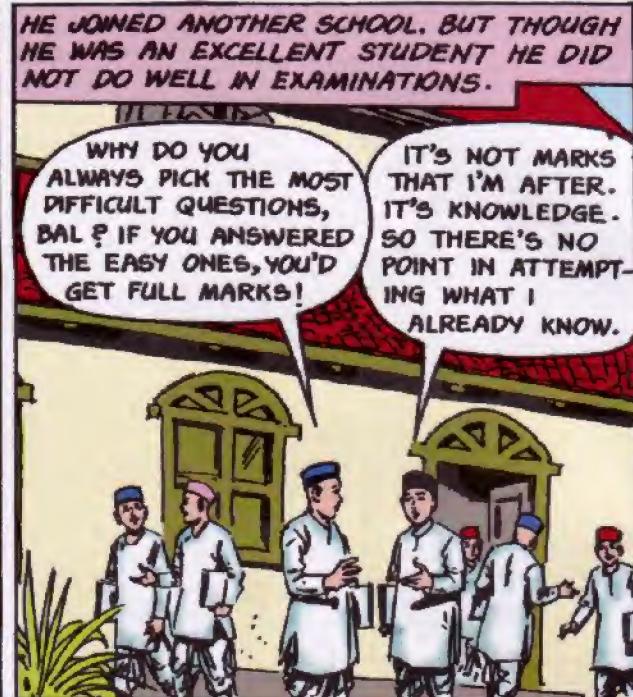
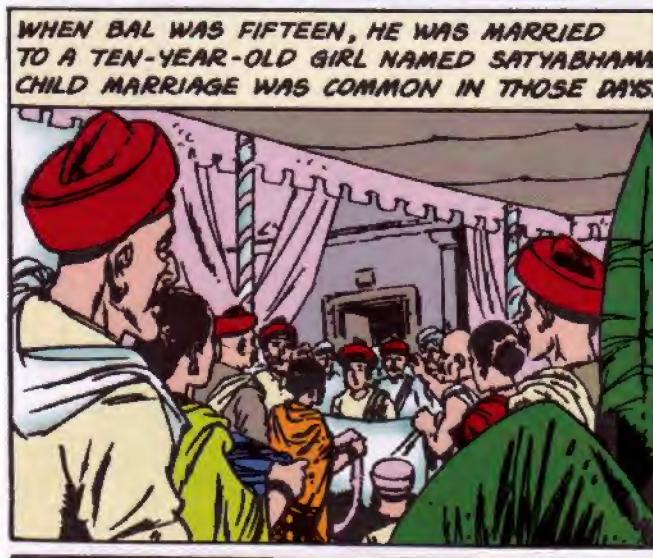
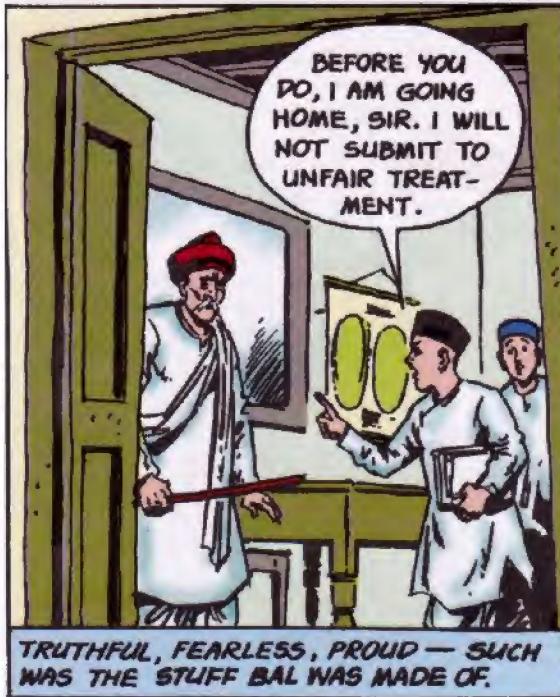


WHEN THE BOYS PRETENDED TO BE SORRY FOR WHAT THEY HAD DONE, THE TEACHER RELENTED.

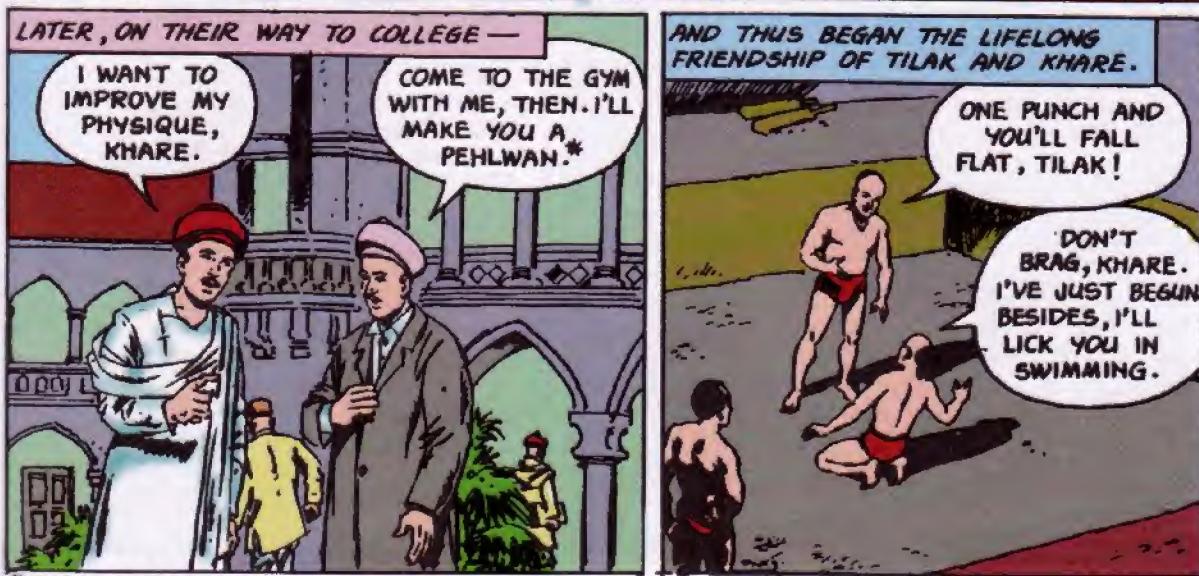
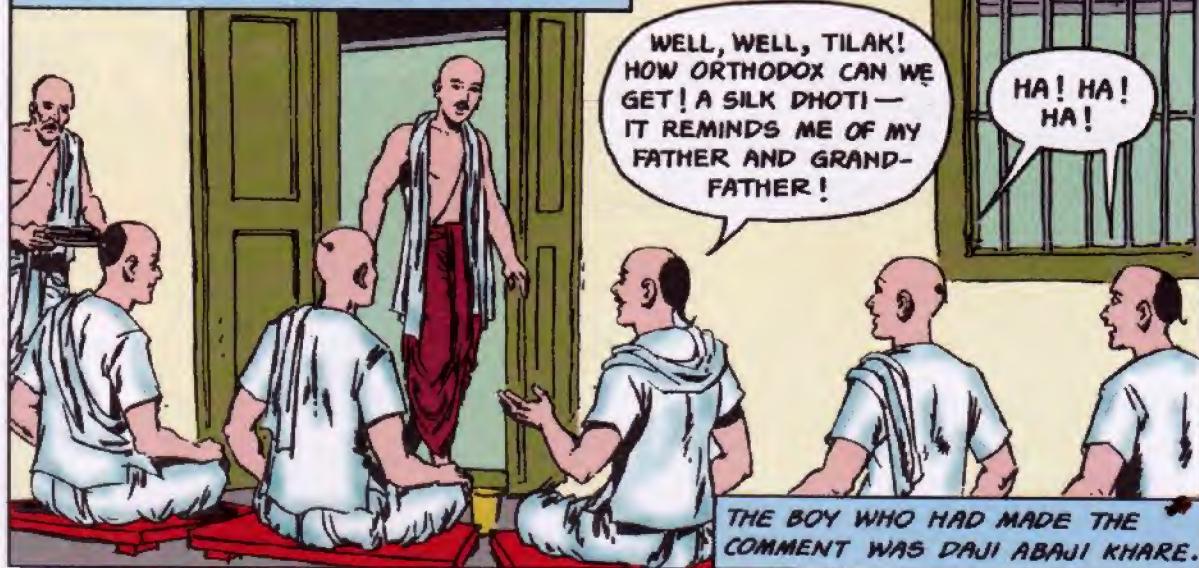


AS THE BOYS BENT DOWN TO PICK UP THE SHELLS, THE TEACHER'S EYE FELL ON BAL.





AND GET OVER IT HE DID. HE WAS SEVENTEEN WHEN HE JOINED THE DECCAN COLLEGE. ON THE FIRST DAY AS THE BOYS ASSEMBLED AT THE MESS FOR LUNCH —



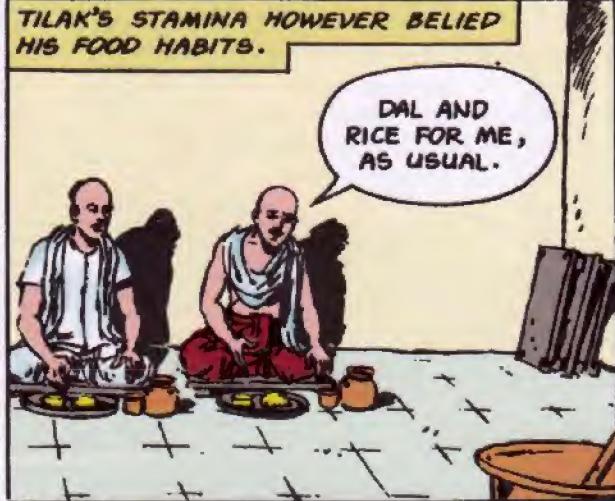
OF ALL SPORTS, SWIMMING WAS BAL'S FAVOURITE. ONE DAY HE AMAZED KHARE BY FLOATING ON HIS BACK FOR HOURS WITH A LOAF OF BREAD HELD ALOFT IN ONE HAND.

SEE, KHARE, NOT A DROP OF WATER ON THIS LOAF!



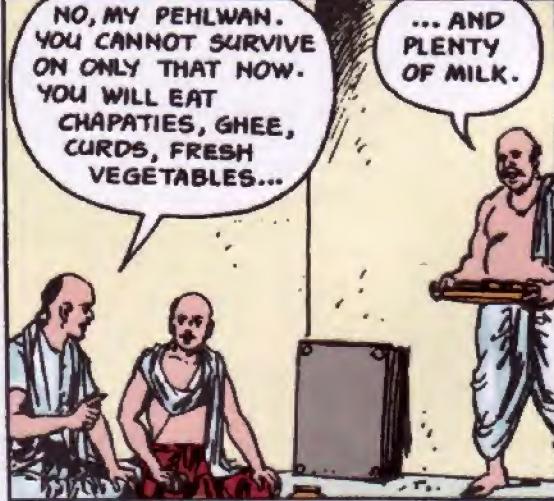
TILAK'S STAMINA HOWEVER BELIED HIS FOOD HABITS.

DAL AND RICE FOR ME, AS USUAL.



NO, MY PEHLWAN. YOU CANNOT SURVIVE ON ONLY THAT NOW. YOU WILL EAT CHAPATIES, GHEE, CURDS, FRESH VEGETABLES...

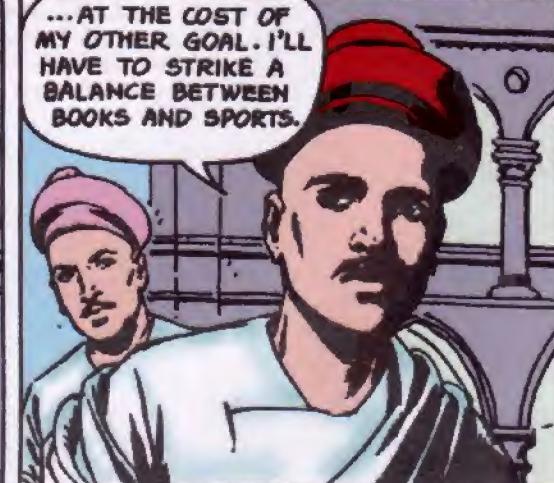
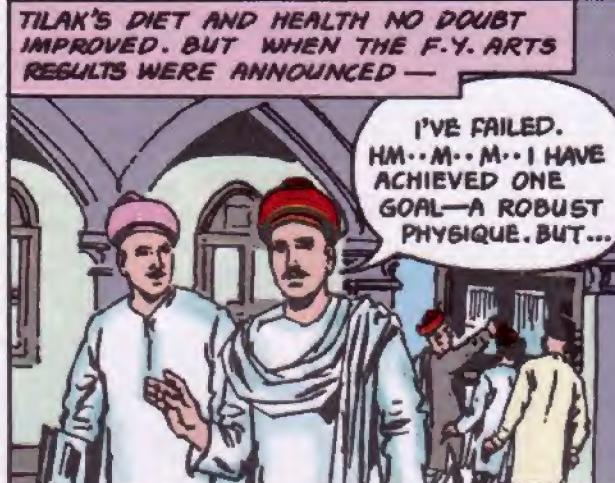
... AND PLENTY OF MILK.



TILAK'S DIET AND HEALTH NO DOUBT IMPROVED. BUT WHEN THE F.Y. ARTS RESULTS WERE ANNOUNCED —

I'VE FAILED. HM...M...M...I HAVE ACHIEVED ONE GOAL—A ROBUST PHYSIQUE. BUT...

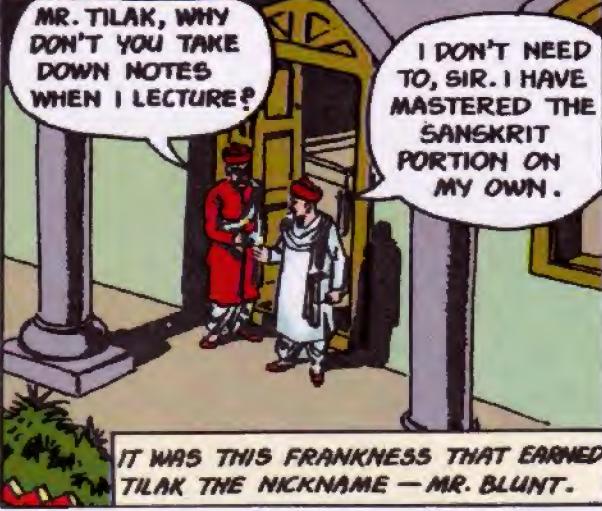
...AT THE COST OF MY OTHER GOAL. I'LL HAVE TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN BOOKS AND SPORTS.



AND SO WELL DID HE DO IT THAT HE WAS HONOURED BY THE BRILLIANT MATHEMATICIAN, PROF. CHHATRE HIMSELF. FOR, ONCE WHEN A STUDENT WENT TO THE PROFESSOR SEEKING HELP —



NOT ALL THE PROFESSORS, HOWEVER, APPRECIATED TILAK'S SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE.



IT WAS THIS FRANKNESS THAT EARNED TILAK THE NICKNAME — MR. BLUNT.

NEVERTHELESS HIS WORDS CARRIED WEIGHT WITH HIS FELLOW STUDENTS. ONCE IN THE COLLEGE HOSTEL —

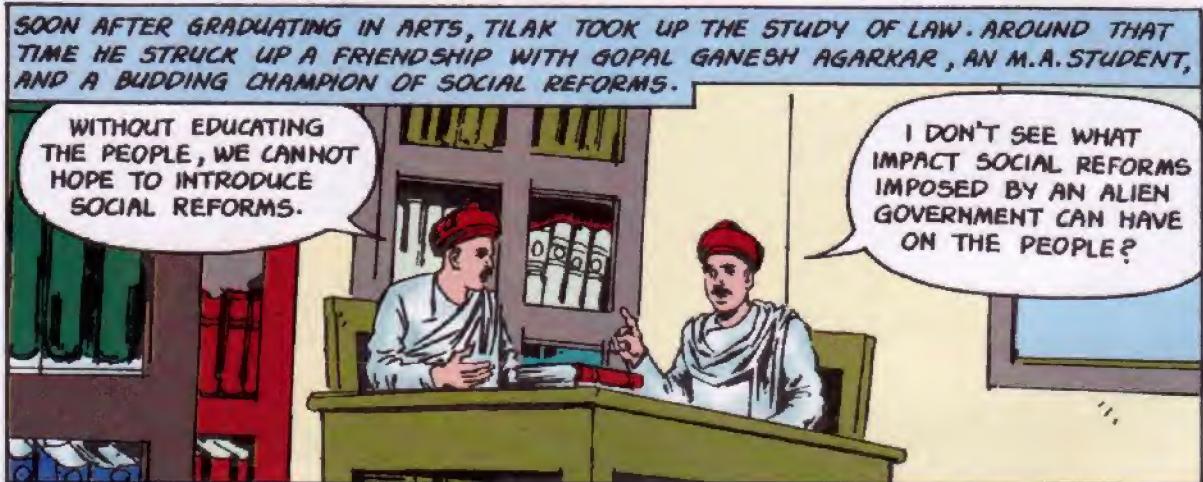
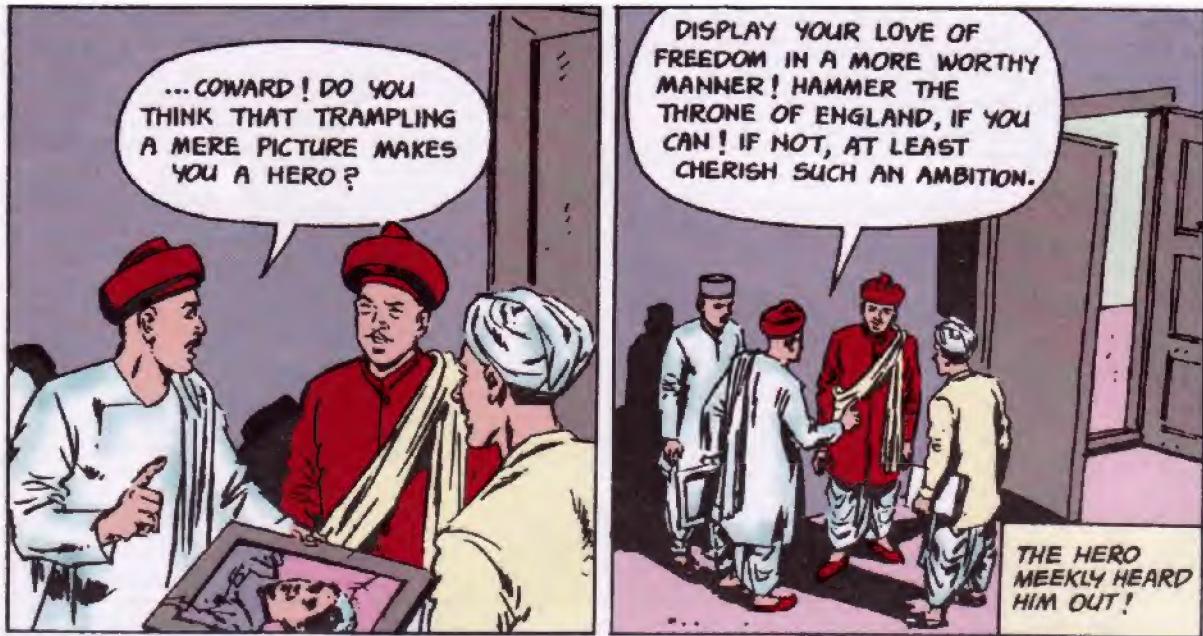


AND THE BOY REACHED OUT FOR THE PICTURE OF THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND, HANGING ON THE WALL.



... TRAMPLED IT! THIS IS WHAT THE BRITISH DESERVE!





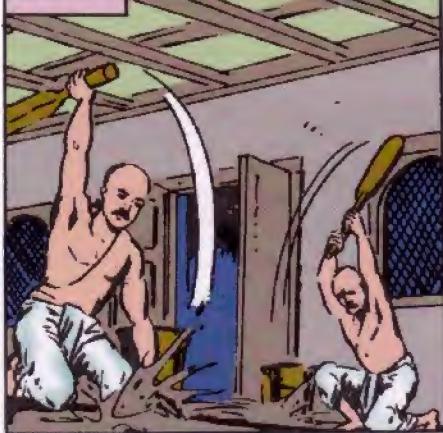
THE IDEA WAS SOON PUT INTO SHAPE. WITH THE HELP OF VISHNU SHASTRI CHIPLUNKAR, THE TWO FRIENDS FOUNDED A SCHOOL.



THE NIGHT BEFORE THE INAUGURATION AS TILAK AND HIS CLOSE FRIEND NAMJOSHI WERE GOING THE ROUNDS —



THE TWO FRIENDS WORKED HARD.



AT THE END OF IT THEY WERE SO EXHAUSTED THAT ...



... THEY FELL ASLEEP IN THE SCHOOL, WITH A BLACK BOARD FOR A BED!



THE SCHOOL ATTRACTED THE BEST OF TALENTS. SUCH AN ENCOURAGING RESPONSE INSPIRED THE FRIENDS TO WORK WITH GREATER ENTHUSIASM.

WE'RE LUCKY TO CATCH THEM YOUNG. AND IF WE DON'T SUCCEED IN INculcating SELF-RESPECT AND LOVE FOR THE COUNTRY IN THEM...

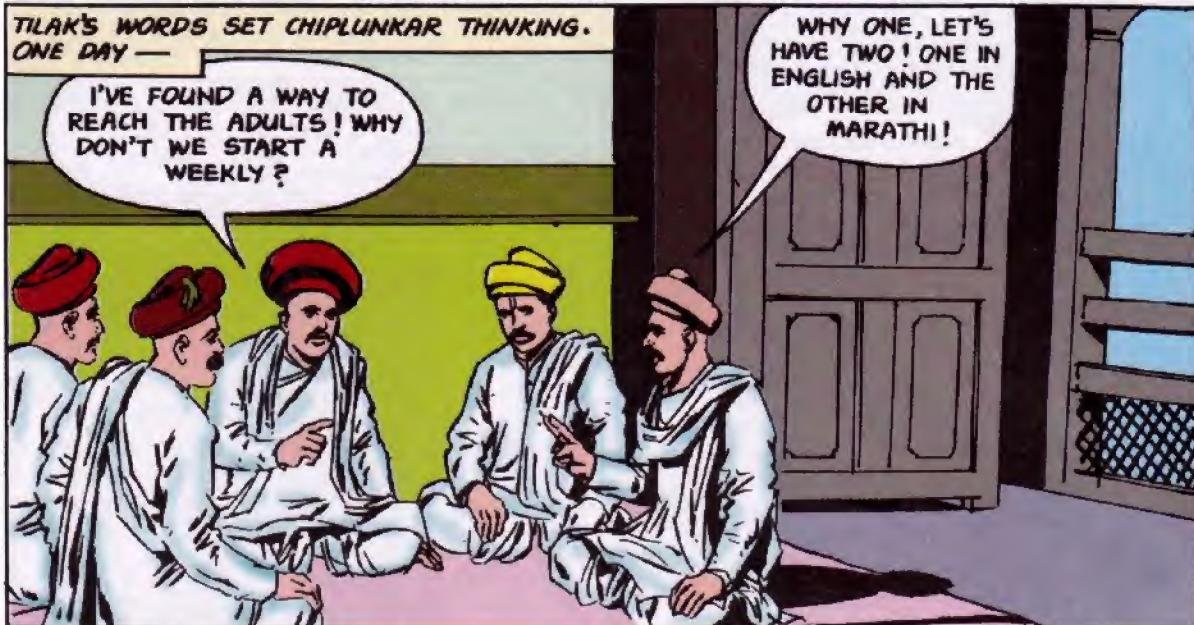
WE WILL SUCCEED! IF ONLY WE COULD REACH THE ADULTS TOO!



TILAK'S WORDS SET CHIPLUNKAR THINKING.  
ONE DAY —

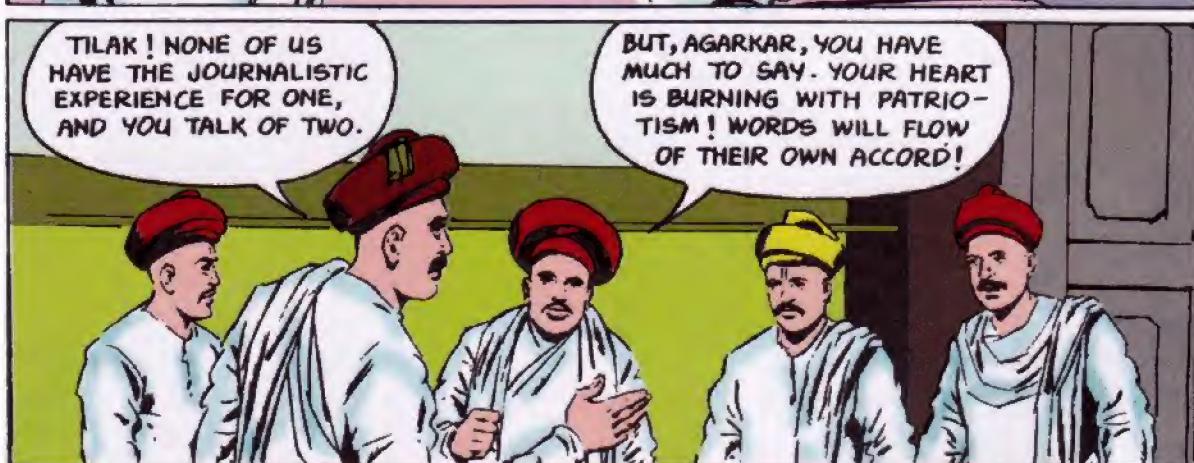
I'VE FOUND A WAY TO  
REACH THE ADULTS! WHY  
DON'T WE START A  
WEEKLY?

WHY ONE, LET'S  
HAVE TWO! ONE IN  
ENGLISH AND THE  
OTHER IN  
MARATHI!



TILAK! NONE OF US  
HAVE THE JOURNALISTIC  
EXPERIENCE FOR ONE,  
AND YOU TALK OF TWO.

BUT, AGARKAR, YOU HAVE  
MUCH TO SAY. YOUR HEART  
IS BURNING WITH PATRIOTISM!  
WORDS WILL FLOW  
OF THEIR OWN ACCORD!

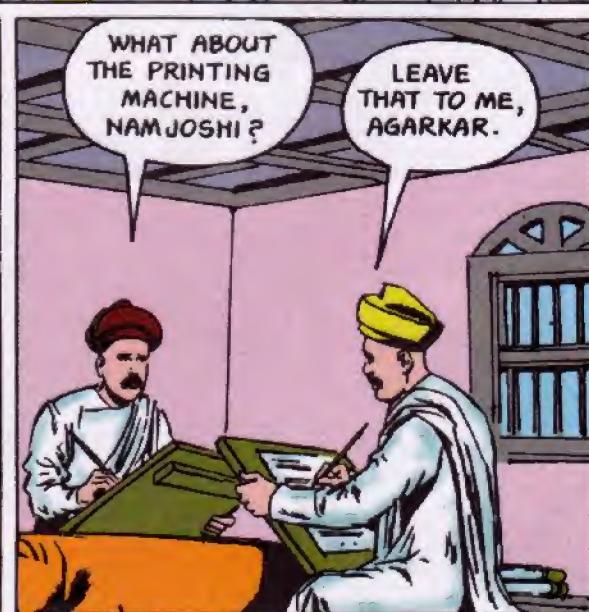
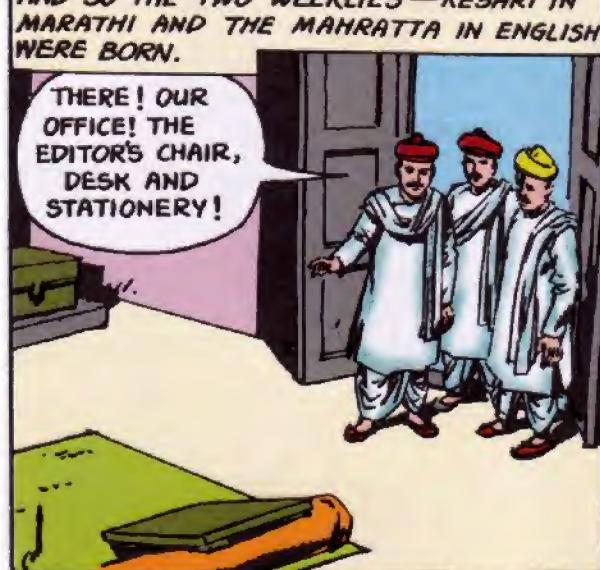


AND SO THE TWO WEEKLIES — KESARI IN  
MARATHI AND THE MAHARATTA IN ENGLISH  
WERE BORN.

THERE! OUR  
OFFICE! THE  
EDITOR'S CHAIR,  
DESK AND  
STATIONERY!

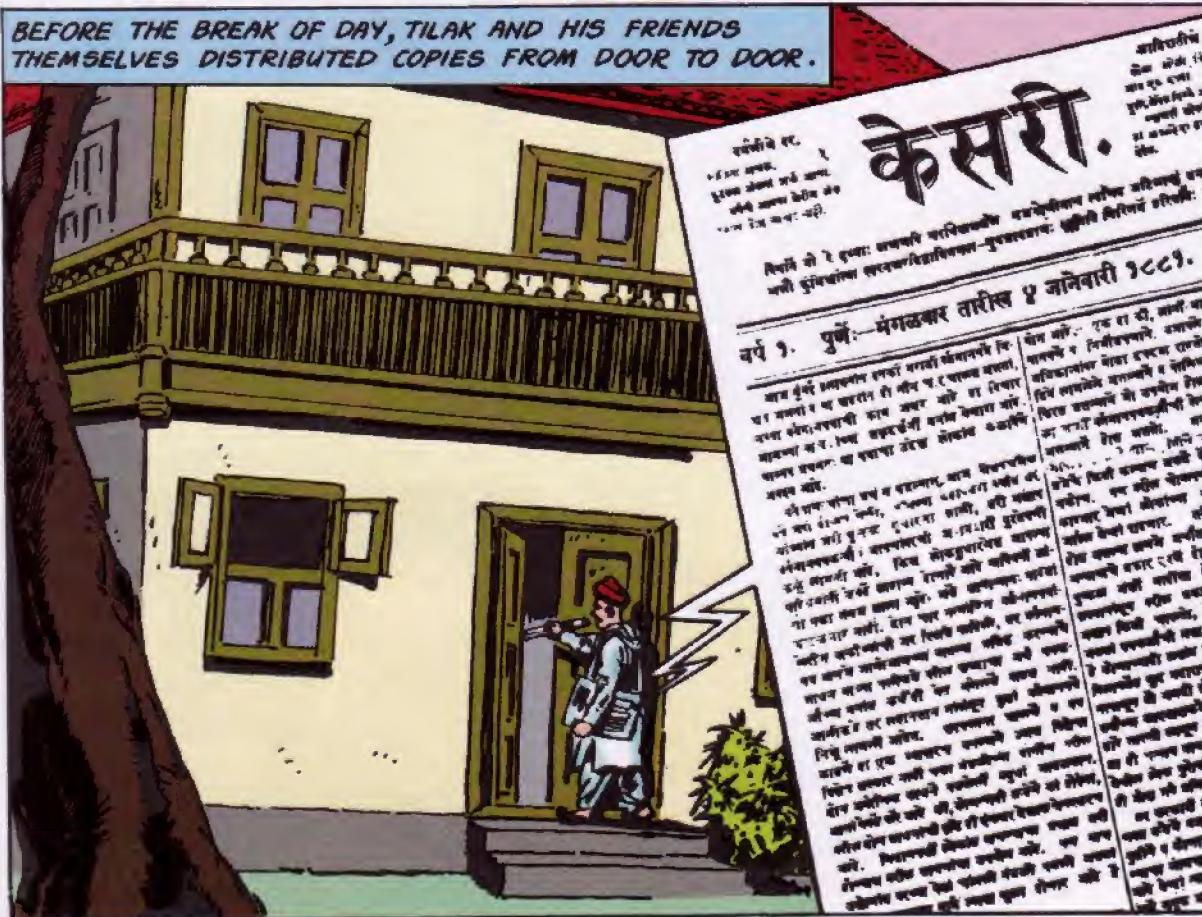
WHAT ABOUT  
THE PRINTING  
MACHINE,  
NAMJOSHI?

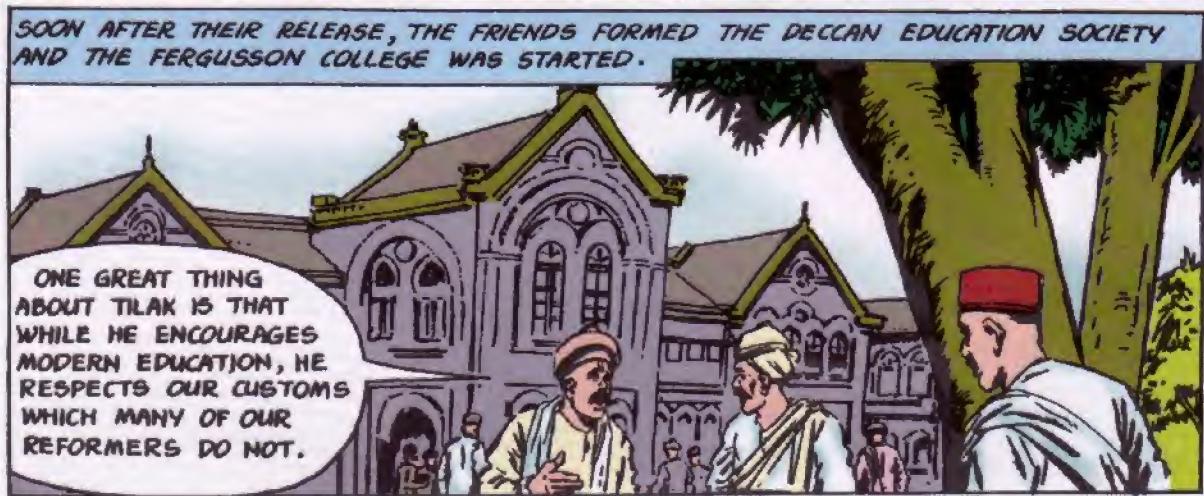
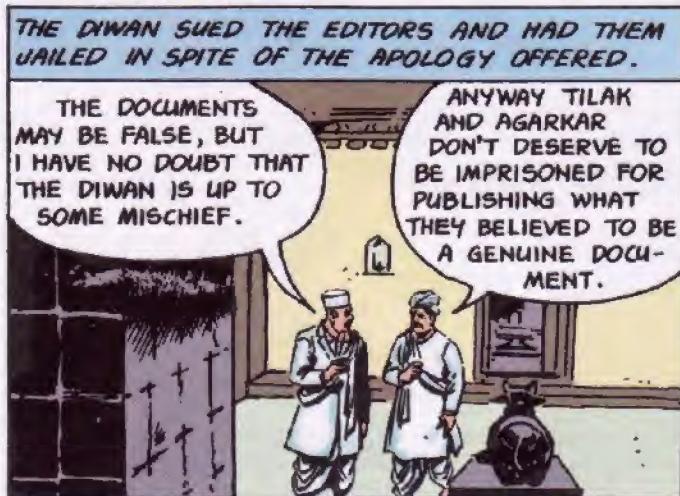
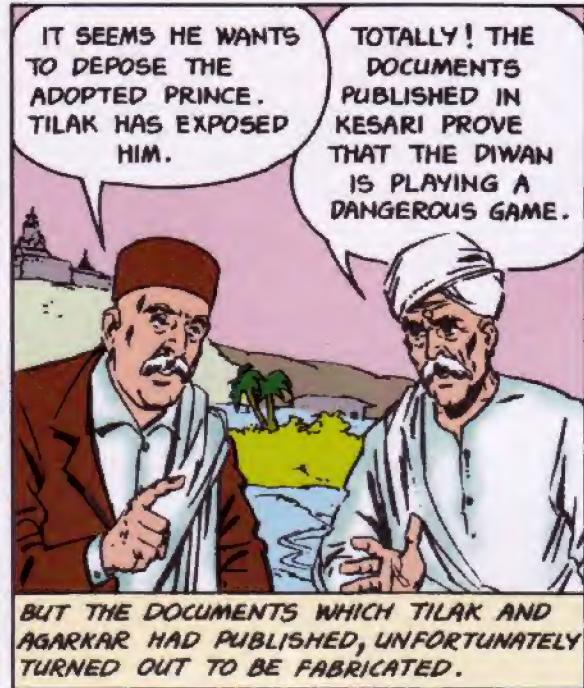
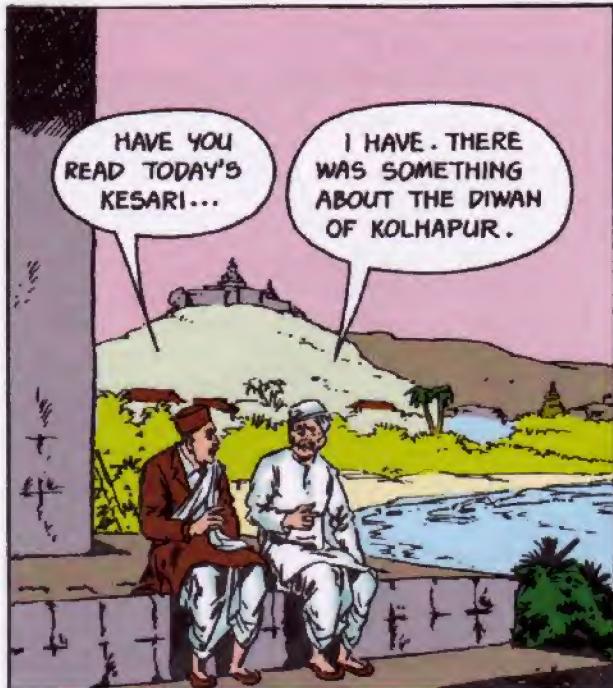
LEAVE  
THAT TO ME,  
AGARKAR.



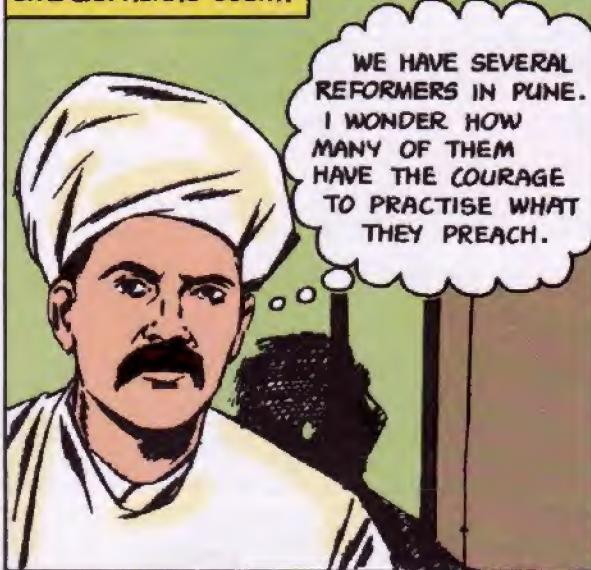


BEFORE THE BREAK OF DAY, TILAK AND HIS FRIENDS THEMSELVES DISTRIBUTED COPIES FROM DOOR TO DOOR.





BUT THIS FAITH IN TILAK WAS PUT TO THE TEST, IN A RATHER MISCHIVOUS MANNER, BY ONE GOPALRAO JOSHI.

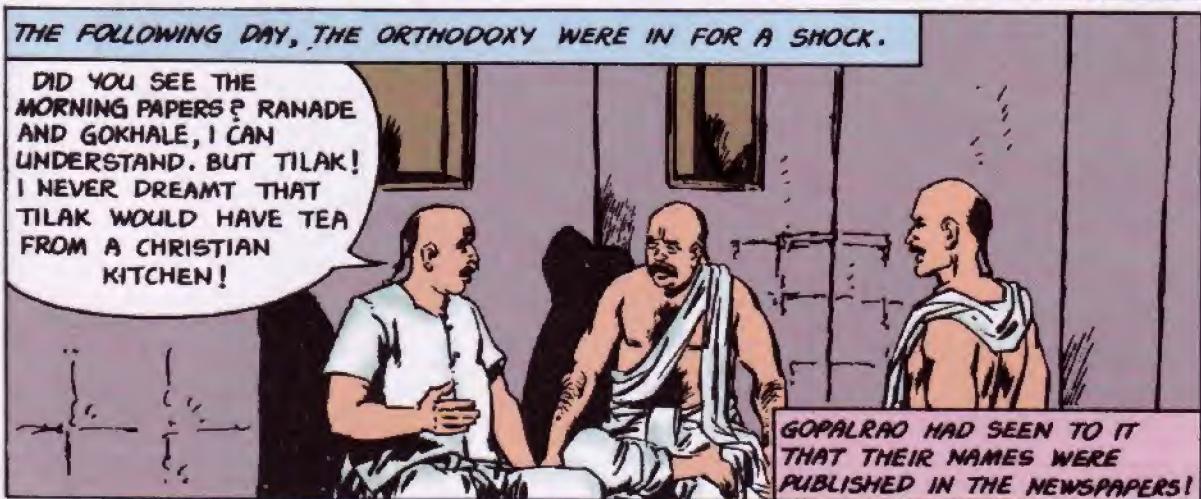


JOSHI INVITED THEM TO DELIVER LECTURES AT A CHRISTIAN MISSION. AFTER THE LECTURE —



THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE ORTHODOXY WERE IN FOR A SHOCK.

DID YOU SEE THE MORNING PAPERS? RANADE AND GOKHALE, I CAN UNDERSTAND. BUT TILAK! I NEVER DREAMT THAT TILAK WOULD HAVE TEA FROM A CHRISTIAN KITCHEN!



ALL THIS REFORM BUSINESS IS GOING TOO FAR!

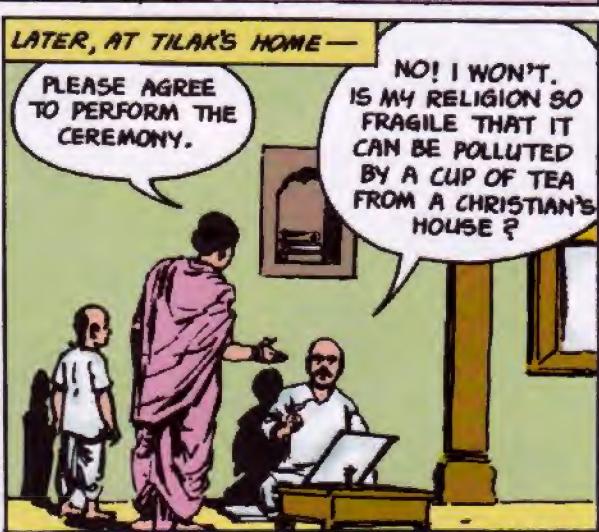
YES. WE MUST EXPEL THEM FROM THE COMMUNITY UNLESS THEY ARE PREPARED TO PERFORM THE PURIFICATION CERemony.

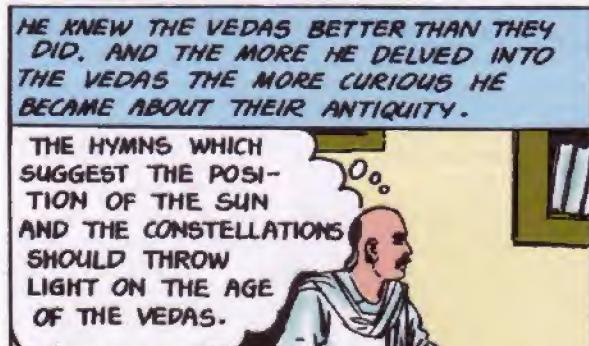
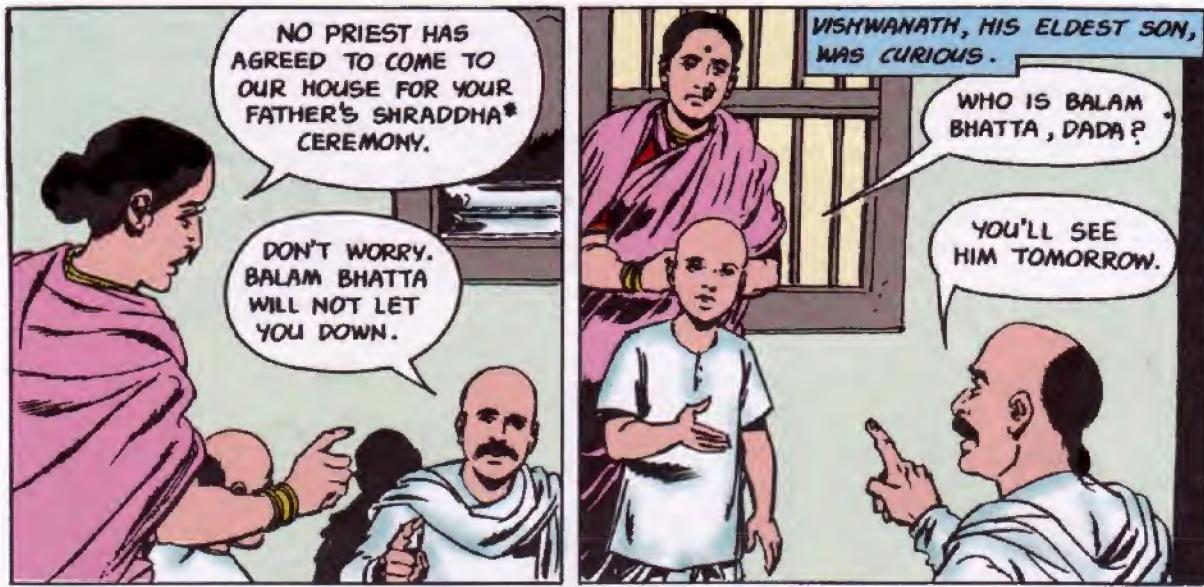


LATER, AT TILAK'S HOME —

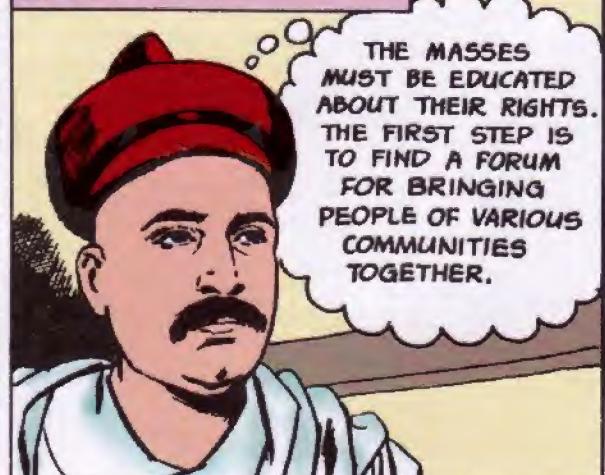
PLEASE AGREE TO PERFORM THE CERemony.

NO! I WON'T. IS MY RELIGION SO FRAGILE THAT IT CAN BE POLLUTED BY A CUP OF TEA FROM A CHRISTIAN'S HOUSE?





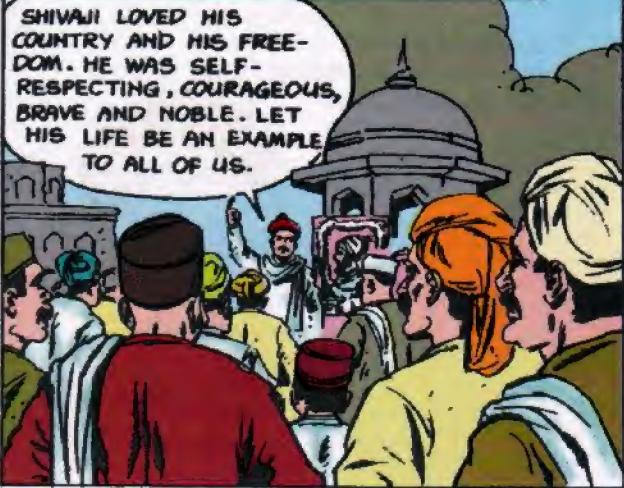
EVEN IN THE MIDST OF ALL HIS SCHOLARLY PURSUITS, TILAK HAD NOT FORGOTTEN THE COMMON MAN.



TO ACHIEVE THIS, HE SET THE TRADITION OF PUBLICLY CELEBRATING THE GANESH FESTIVAL.



LATER HE CELEBRATED THE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SHIVAJI AT RAIGAD, WHICH HAD ONCE BEEN THE CAPITAL OF THE MARATHAS.



AROUND THAT TIME, THE GOVERNMENT RAISED THE TAX\* ON INDIAN CLOTH, TO HELP THE CLOTH FROM BRITAIN TO SELL BETTER.



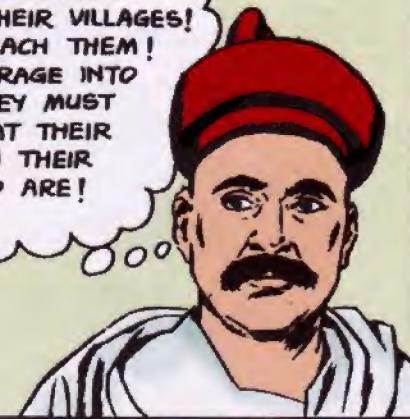
TILAK, HOWEVER, DID NOT SIT BACK HELPLESS.



\* EXCISE DUTY + INDIGENOUS

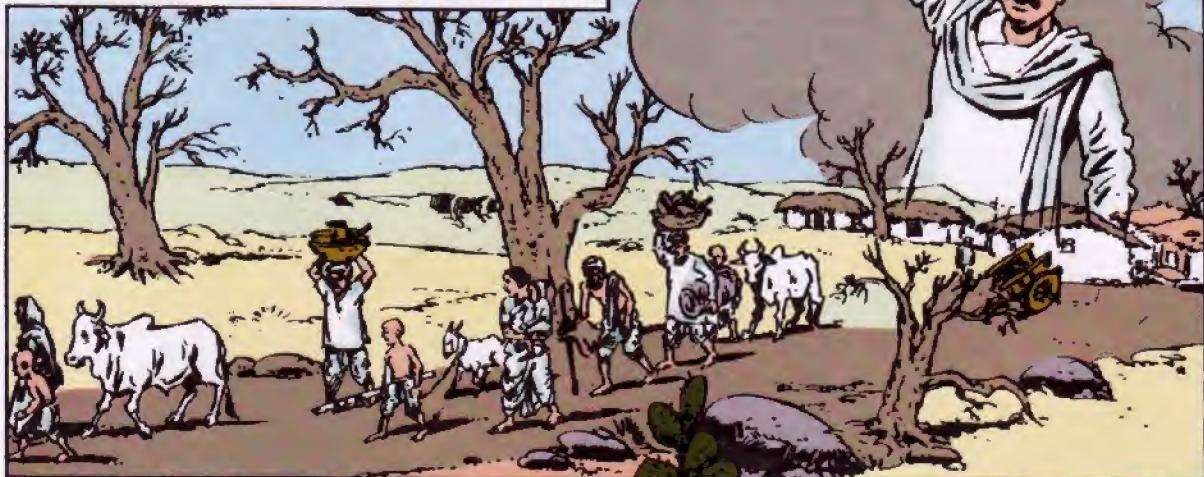
ONCE WHEN FAMINE BROKE OUT IN MAHARASHTRA —

THE FARMERS ARE LEAVING THEIR VILLAGES! I MUST REACH THEM! INSTIL COURAGE INTO THEM! THEY MUST KNOW WHAT THEIR RIGHTS IN THEIR HOMELAND ARE!



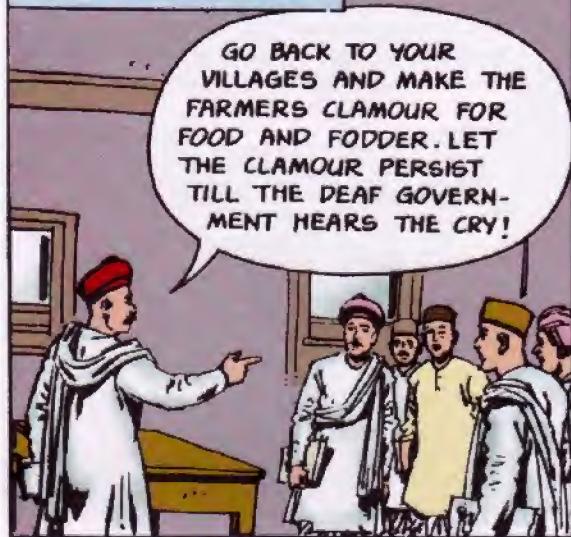
TIKAL DID NOT BELIEVE IN SENDING PETITIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT AS SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS, THE MODERATES, DID. HIS METHODS WERE DIFFERENT.

THE CROPS HAVE FAILED AND YOU HAVE NEITHER FOOD NOR MONEY. ARE YOU GOING TO LOSE THE ROOF ABOVE YOUR HEAD TOO? YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE! CAN'T YOU FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS EVEN IN THE GRIP OF DEATH?



TIKAL AND HIS SUPPORTERS WERE LABELLED EXTREMISTS. BUT THAT DID NOT DETER HIM.

GO BACK TO YOUR VILLAGES AND MAKE THE FARMERS CLAMOUR FOR FOOD AND FODDER. LET THE CLAMOUR PERSIST TILL THE DEAF GOVERNMENT HEARS THE CRY!



WE WILL NOT REST TILL THE CRY IS HEARD!



YOUNG AND OLD, TILAK'S VOLUNTEERS WENT TO THE VILLAGES CARRYING HIS MESSAGE.

FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS! DON'T BE AFRAID OF PETTY OFFICIALS! NO ONE CAN COMPEL YOU TO SELL YOUR LAND TO PAY TAXES. INSTEAD, THE GOVERNMENT MUST HELP YOU IN SUCH TIMES!



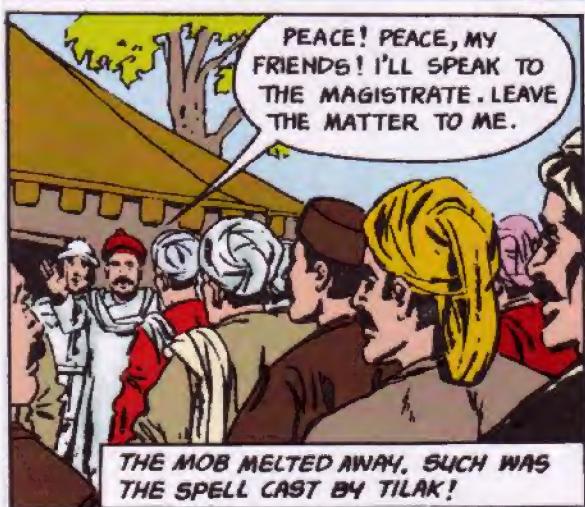
THE OFFICIALS RETALIATED BY ARRESTING THE VOLUNTEERS. AT PUNE A FURIOUS MOB SURROUNDED THE MAGISTRATE.



WHEN TILAK RUSHED TO THE SCENE —



PEACE! PEACE, MY FRIENDS! I'LL SPEAK TO THE MAGISTRATE. LEAVE THE MATTER TO ME.

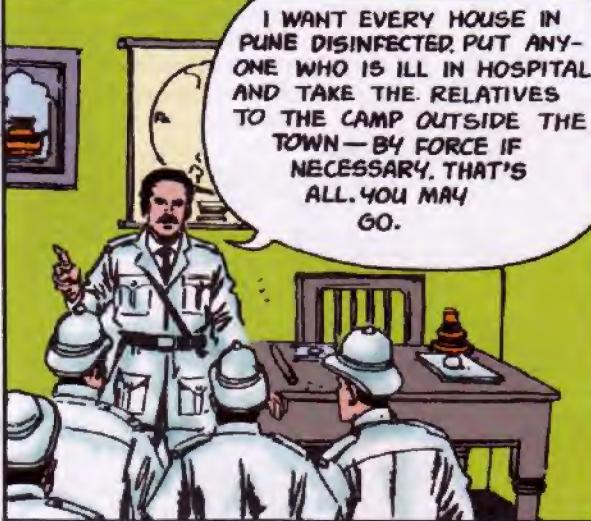


THE MOB MELTED AWAY. SUCH WAS THE SPELL CAST BY TILAK!

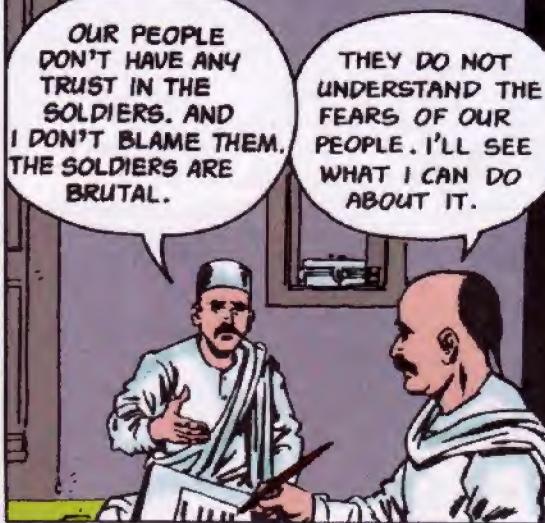
WHILE TILAK WAS BUSY WITH THE STRUGGLE TO SECURE FAMINE RELIEF FOR THE FARMERS, THE PLAGUE STRUCK PUNE. THE GOVERNMENT WAS AT FIRST INDIFFERENT AND TOOK NO MEASURES TO ARREST THE SPREAD OF THE DREADED DISEASE.



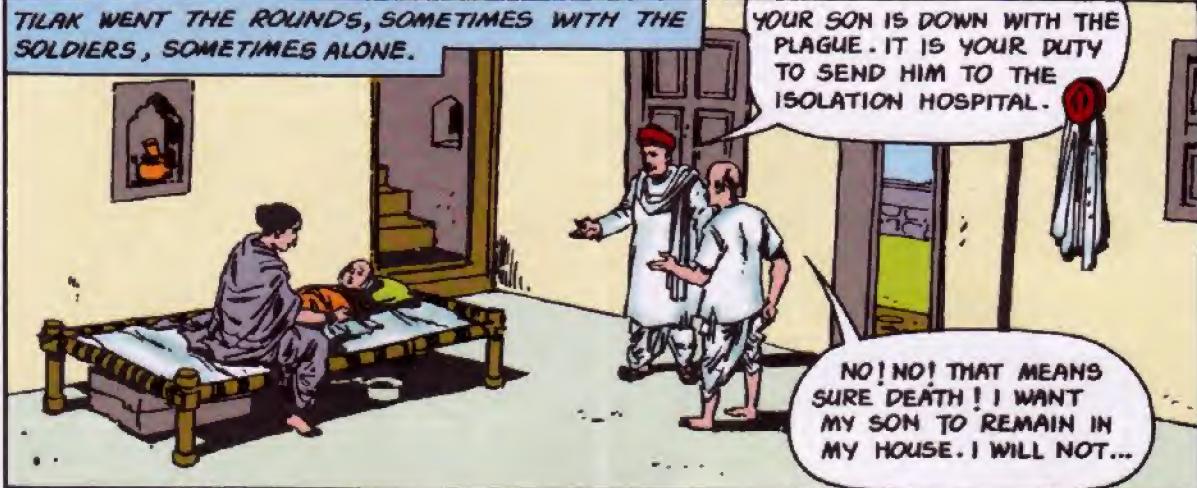
FINALLY WHEN IT DID ACT, IT DID SO WITH A VENGEANCE. ONE CHARLES RAND WAS APPOINTED PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.



BUT THERE WAS TROUBLE AFOOT.



TILAK WENT THE ROUNDS, SOMETIMES WITH THE SOLDIERS, SOMETIMES ALONE.

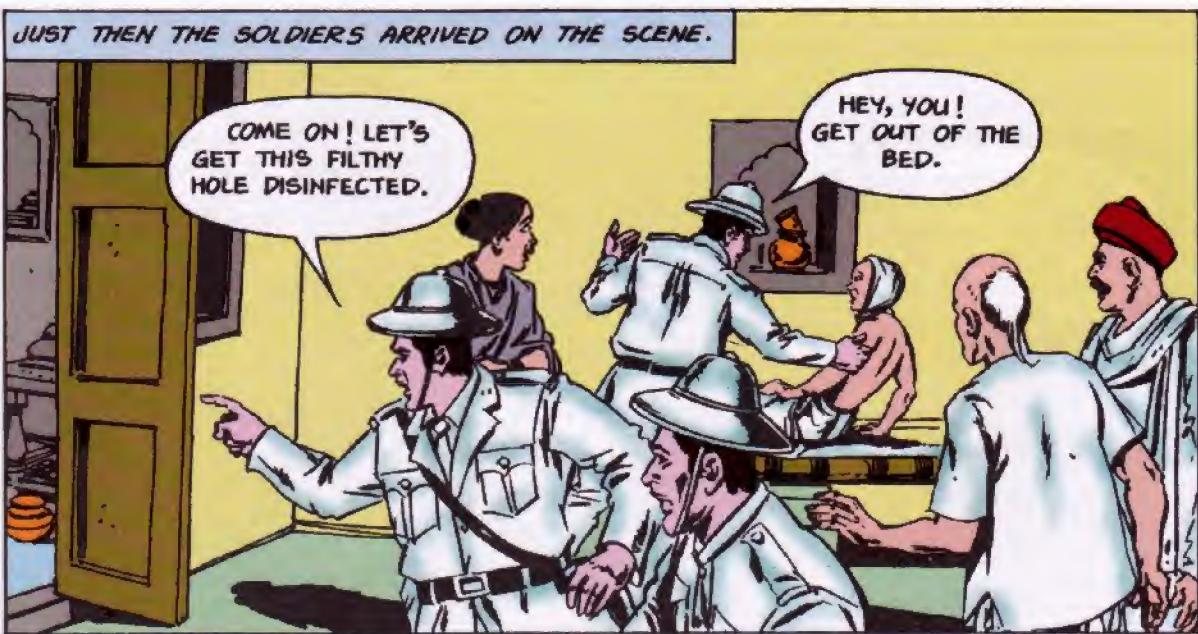


PLEASE LISTEN TO ME, KAKA\*, TO SAVE HIS LIFE AND THE LIVES OF OTHERS AT HOME, YOU MUST SEND HIM TO THE HOSPITAL.

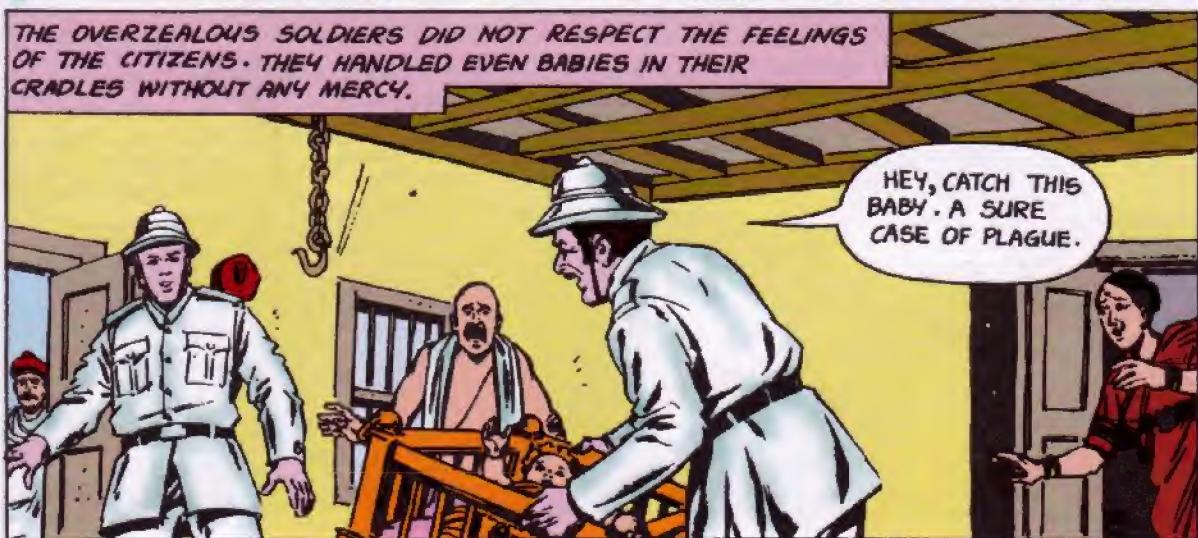
YOU KNOW BEST, BALWANTRAO. DO AS YOU WISH.



JUST THEN THE SOLDIERS ARRIVED ON THE SCENE.



THE OVERZEALOUS SOLDIERS DID NOT RESPECT THE FEELINGS OF THE CITIZENS. THEY HANDLED EVEN BABIES IN THEIR CRADLES WITHOUT ANY MERCY.



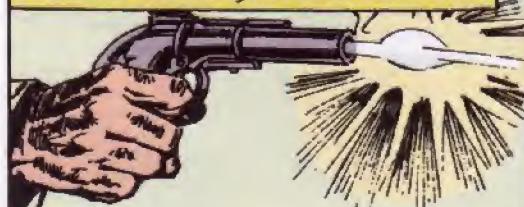
TIKAL RAISED HIS VOICE AGAINST INHUMAN TREATMENT METED OUT TO THE SUFFERING PEOPLE OF PUNE. IN HIS ENGLISH WEEKLY, MAHRATTA, HE WROTE —



TILAK SET UP HIS OWN SEGREGATION CAMP FOR THE TERRIFIED VICTIMS AND THEIR RELATIVES. HE EVEN STARTED A FREE KITCHEN FOR THE POOR IN THE CAMP.



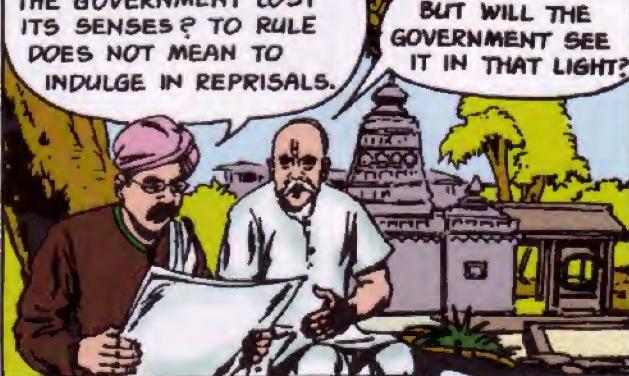
NORMALCY SLOWLY RETURNED BUT THE WOUNDS INFILCTED BY THE THOUGHTLESS SOLDIERS DID NOT HEAL. AN ANGRY MAN, DAMODAR HARI CHAPHEKAR, SHOT AT RAND.



MEANWHILE, THE GOVERNMENT IMPOSED HEAVY FINES ON THE CITIZENS.

LOOK! LISTEN TO WHAT TILAK HAS TO SAY. HAS THE GOVERNMENT LOST ITS SENSES? TO RULE DOES NOT MEAN TO INDULGE IN REPRISALS.

TILAK IS WISE. BUT WILL THE GOVERNMENT SEE IT IN THAT LIGHT?



THEY CERTAINLY DIDN'T.

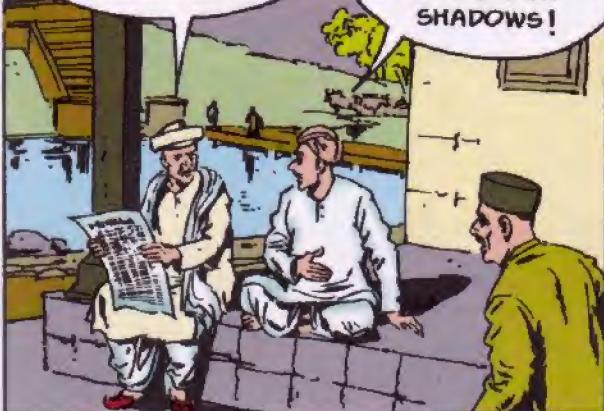
THE TIMES OF INDIA\* ALLEGES THAT THE CULPRIT DREW INSPIRATION FROM TILAK'S WRITINGS AND SPEECHES.

THE ENGLISHMEN ARE SO PANIC-STRICKEN THAT THEY SEE MURDERERS EVEN IN THEIR OWN SHADOWS!

WHEN RAND DIED OF THE BULLET WOUND, THE ENGLISHMEN STEPPED UP THEIR CAMPAIGN AGAINST TILAK. FINALLY THE GOVERNMENT SWUNG INTO ACTION.

TILAK HAS BEEN ARRESTED.

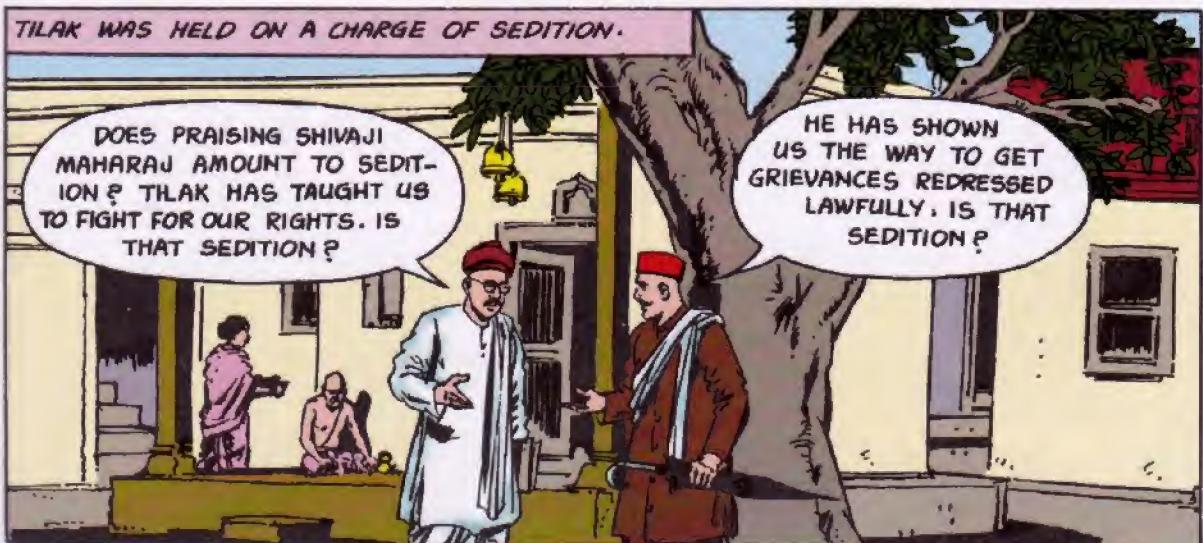
THE GOVERNMENT HAS LOST ITS SENSES.



TILAK WAS HELD ON A CHARGE OF SEDITION.

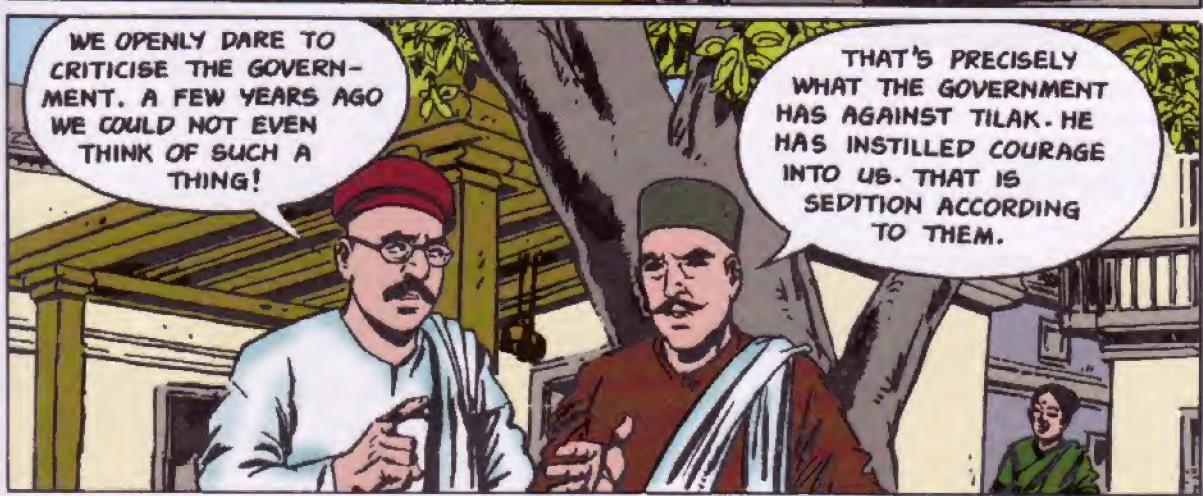
DOES PRAISING SHIVAJI MAHARAJ AMOUNT TO SEDITION? TILAK HAS TAUGHT US TO FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS. IS THAT SEDITION?

HE HAS SHOWN US THE WAY TO GET GRIEVANCES REDRESSED LAWFULLY. IS THAT SEDITION?



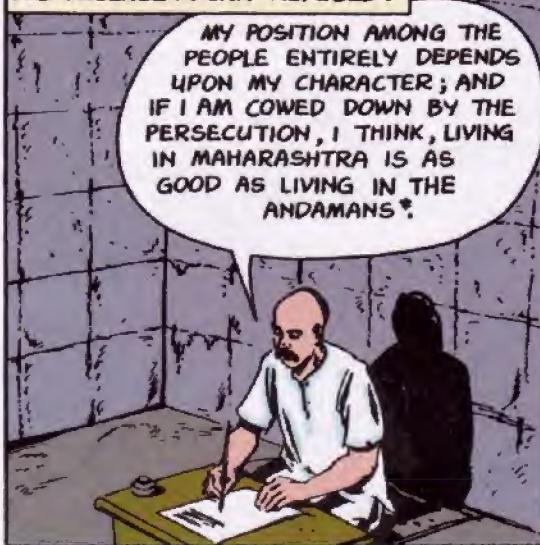
WE OPENLY DARE TO CRITICISE THE GOVERNMENT. A FEW YEARS AGO WE COULD NOT EVEN THINK OF SUCH A THING!

THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS AGAINST TILAK. HE HAS INSTILLED COURAGE INTO US. THAT IS SEDITION ACCORDING TO THEM.



\* THEN CONTROLLED BY A BRITISH COMPANY

SOME OF HIS FRIENDS HINTED THAT TILAK SHOULD OFFER AN APOLOGY AND SECURE HIS RELEASE. TILAK REFUSED.



AS EXPECTED THE COURT FOUND TILAK GUILTY. THE SENTENCE WAS EIGHTEEN MONTHS' RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT. WHEN THE NEWS REACHED HIS WIFE, SHE FELL SERIOUSLY ILL.



TILAK TOO FELL ILL IN PRISON. HE LOST 21 POUNDS!



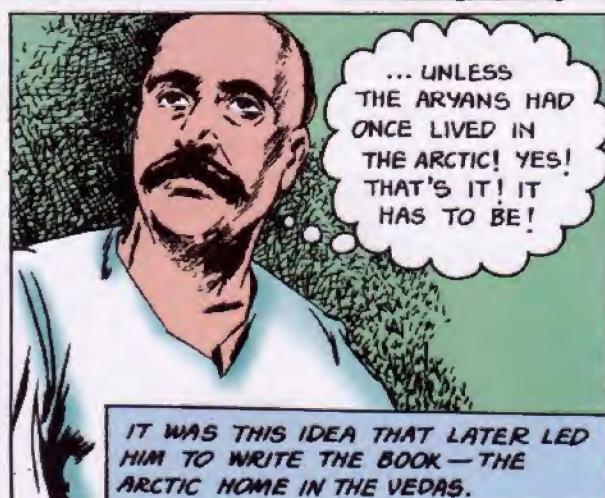
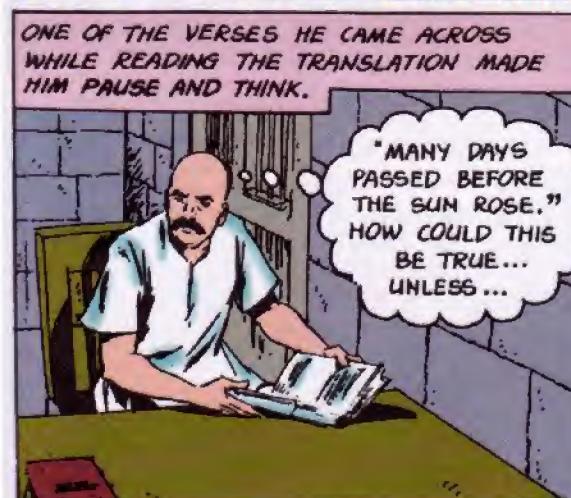
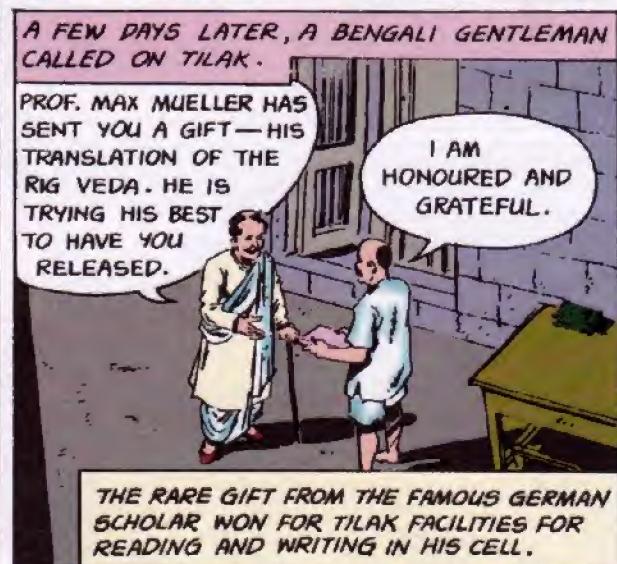
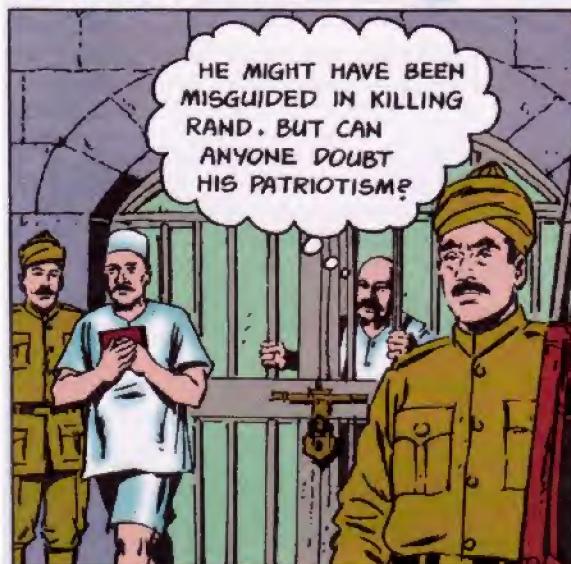
HOWEVER, A MUSLIM WARDER TRIED TO BE OF HELP TO HIM.



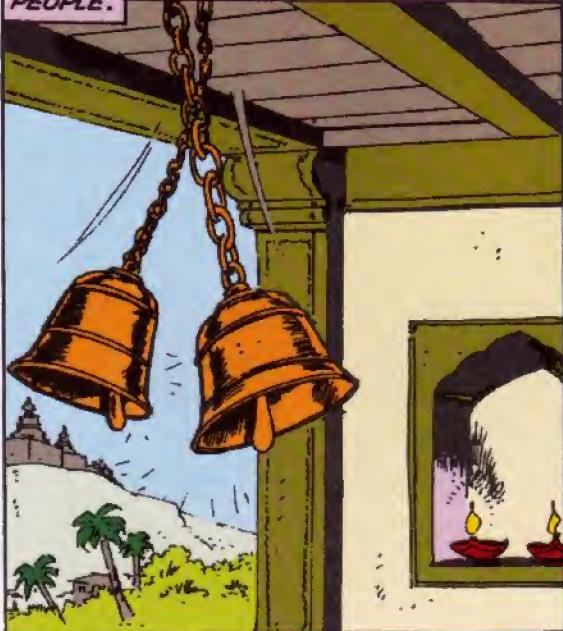
THE NEXT DAY, HE BROUGHT SOME COPRA AND JAGGERY. TILAK DECIDED TO LIE TO PUT HIM OFF.



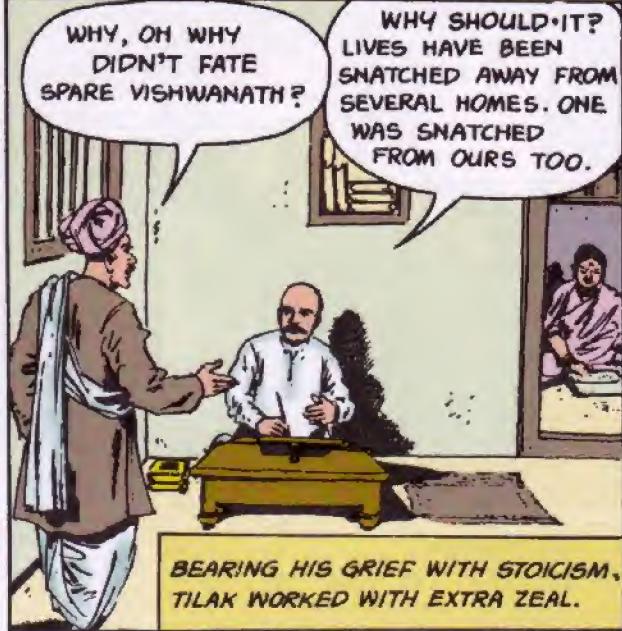
WHEN TILAK WAS SHIFTED FROM BOMBAY TO YERAVDA JAIL, CHAPHEKAR WHO HAD BEEN CAUGHT AND SENTENCED TO DEATH, TOOK SPECIAL PERMISSION TO MEET HIM IN HIS CELL.



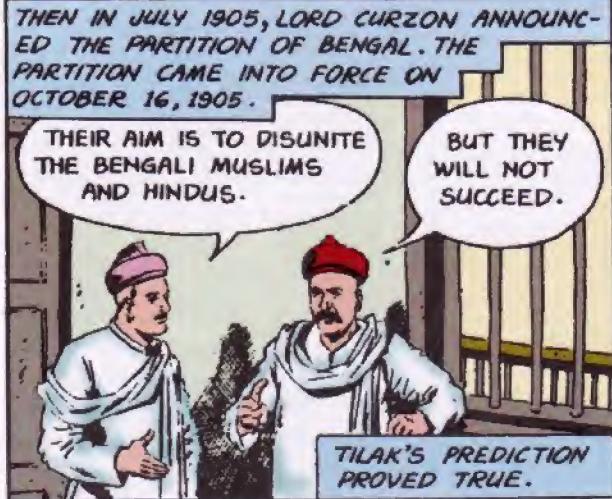
AT LAST ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1898, TILAK WAS RELEASED. THE TEMPLE BELLS OF PUNE RANG OUT ECHOING THE JOY OF THE PEOPLE.



FIVE YEARS LATER, THE PLAGUE BROKE OUT AGAIN IN PUNE. THIS TIME IT CLAIMED TILAK'S ELDEST SON.



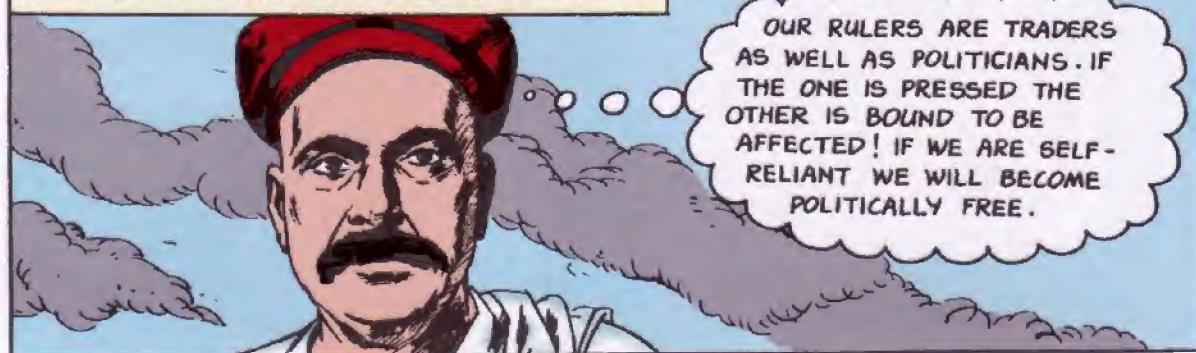
THEN IN JULY 1905, LORD CURZON ANNOUNCED THE PARTITION OF BENGAL. THE PARTITION CAME INTO FORCE ON OCTOBER 16, 1905.



THE PARTITION ONLY GAVE FURTHER IMPETUS TO THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT. IN PUNE AS IN THE REST OF INDIA, PEOPLE BOYCOTTED FOREIGN GOODS. STUDENTS MADE A HUGE BONFIRE OF FOREIGN CLOTHES; THE FIRST OF MANY TO COME.

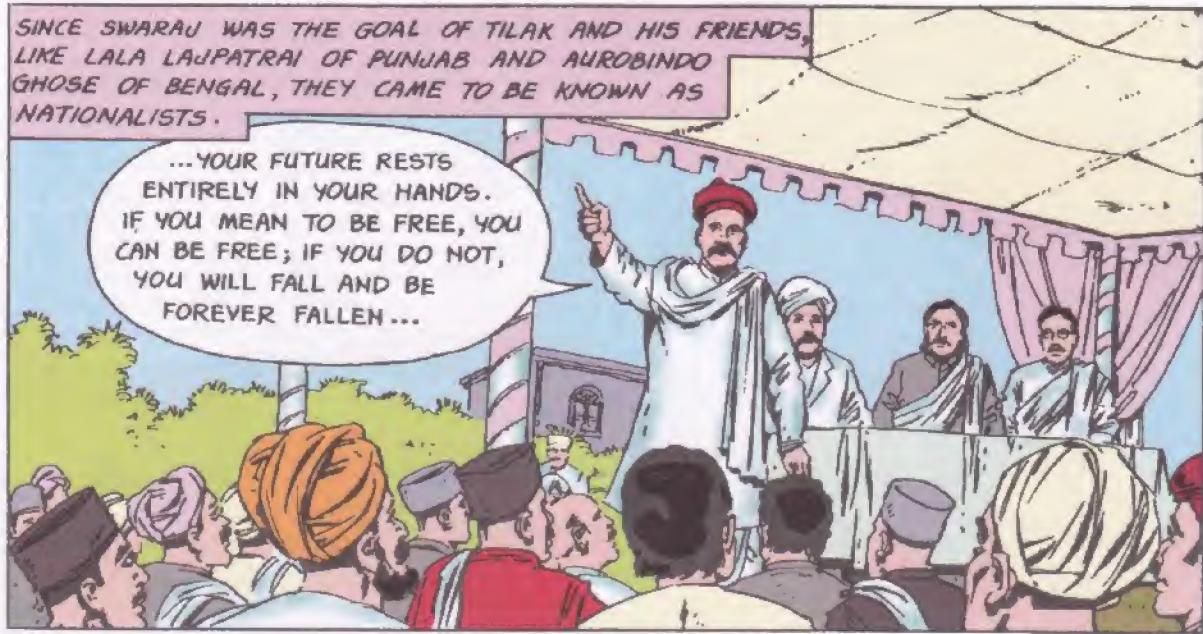


TILAK STARTED A GLASS FACTORY AT TALEGAON AND A CO-OPERATIVE STORE FOR THE SALE OF SWADESHI GOODS IN BOMBAY.



SINCE SWARAJ WAS THE GOAL OF TILAK AND HIS FRIENDS, LIKE LALA LAJPATRAI OF PUNJAB AND AUROBINDO GHOSH OF BENGAL, THEY CAME TO BE KNOWN AS NATIONALISTS.

...YOUR FUTURE RESTS ENTIRELY IN YOUR HANDS. IF YOU MEAN TO BE FREE, YOU CAN BE FREE; IF YOU DO NOT, YOU WILL FALL AND BE FOREVER FALLEN...



THE GOVERNMENT TRIED IN VAIN TO CURB THE NATIONALISTS. LALA LAJPATRAI WAS DEPORTED TO MANDALAY IN BURMA. BUT —



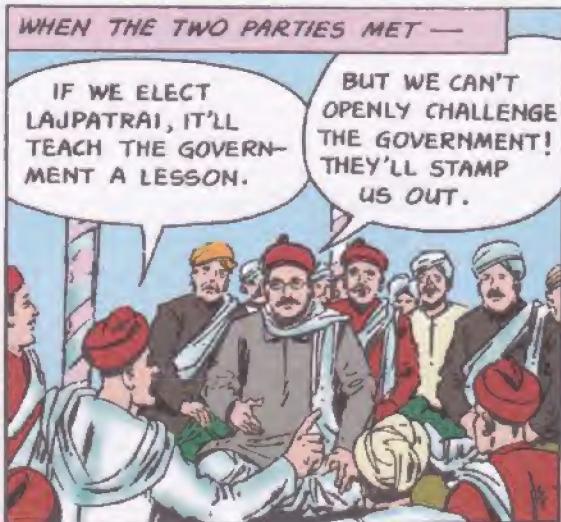
WHEN LAJPATRAI WAS RELEASED IN NOVEMBER 1907 —



WHEN THE TWO PARTIES MET —

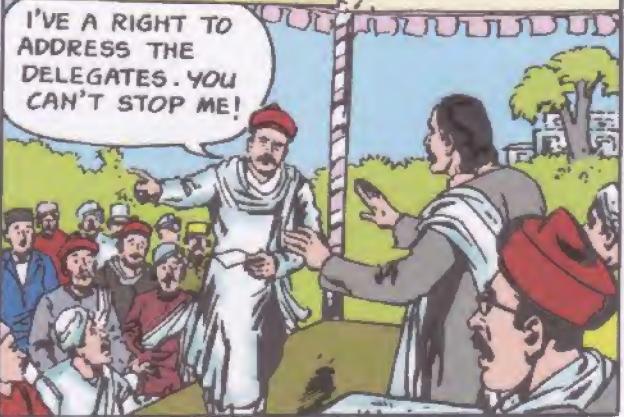
IF WE ELECT LAJPATRAI, IT'LL TEACH THE GOVERNMENT A LESSON.

BUT WE CAN'T OPENLY CHALLENGE THE GOVERNMENT! THEY'LL STAMP US OUT.

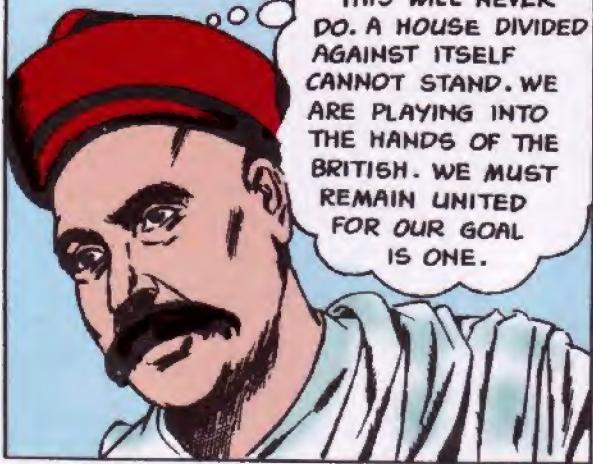


AT THE CONGRESS SESSION IN SURAT, TILAK WAS NOT ALLOWED TO SPEAK BEFORE DR. GHOSH'S ELECTION.

I'VE A RIGHT TO ADDRESS THE DELEGATES. YOU CAN'T STOP ME!



BUT THEY DID AND THE CONGRESS SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS.



THE EXPLOSION ECHOED THROUGH THE COUNTRY. THE GOVERNMENT SWUNG INTO ACTION AND SEVERAL JOURNALISTS WERE JAILED.

TILAK, I WANT TO GIVE YOU A TIP. THE GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO ARREST YOU.

WHAT DOES IT MATTER ? THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS LIKE A VAST PRISON. THEY ARE NOW GOING TO CONFINE ME IN A SMALLER ONE.

AROUND THIS TIME, REVOLUTIONARIES WHO BELIEVED IN VIOLENCE BECAME ACTIVE. ON APRIL 30, 1908 THE FIRST BOMB WAS THROWN AT THE BRITISH RESIDENTS OF MUZAFFARPUR.



THE CASE AGAINST TILAK CAME UP BEFORE THE BOMBAY HIGH COURT. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL QUOTED FROM THE ARTICLE TO PRESS HIS CLAIM THAT TILAK WAS GUILTY.

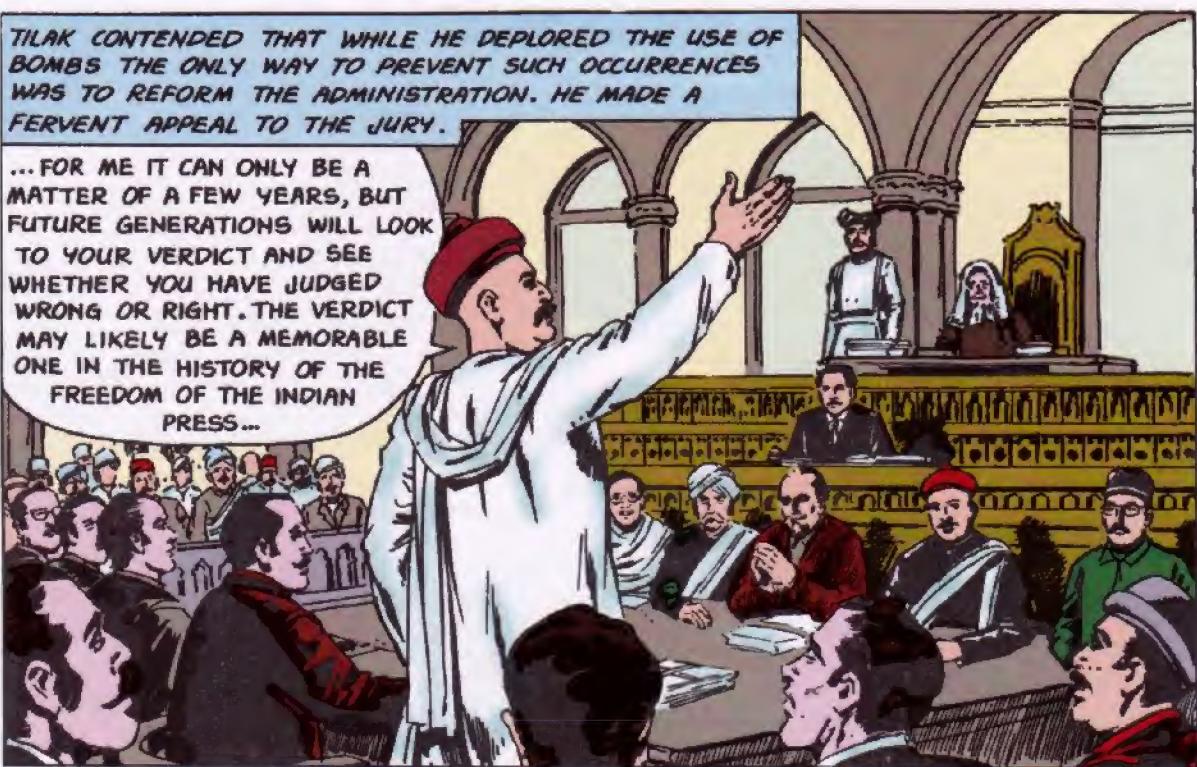


“ THE BOMB PARTY HAS COME INTO EXISTENCE AS A RESULT OF THE OPPRESSION PRACTISED BY THE OFFICIAL CLASS ... THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS CALAMITY MUST, THEREFORE, BE THROWN NOT ON POLITICAL AGITATION, WRITINGS, OR SPEECHES BUT ON THE THOUGHTLESSNESS AND THE OBSTINACY OF THE OFFICIAL CLASS.”

LOKAMANYA TILAK

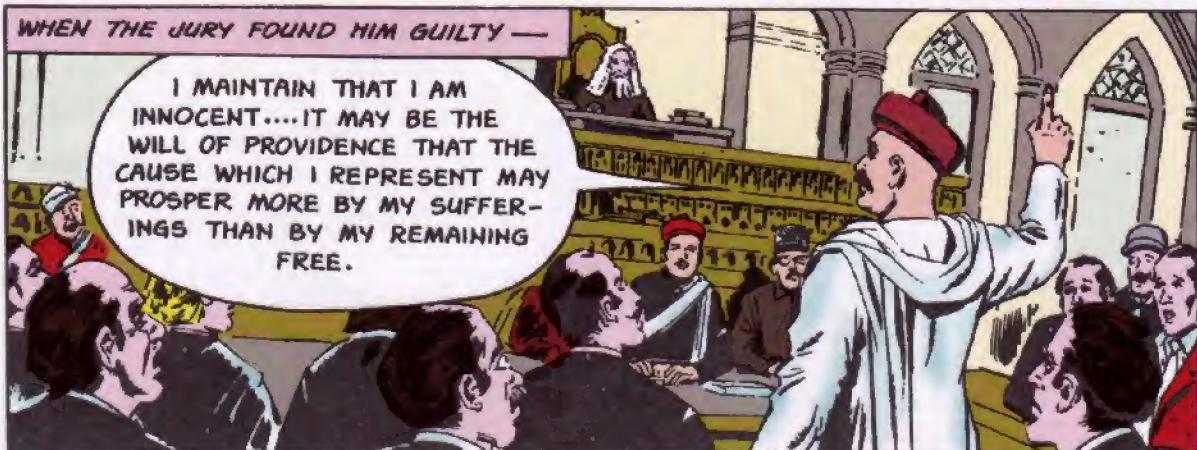
TILAK CONTENDED THAT WHILE HE DEPLORED THE USE OF BOMBS THE ONLY WAY TO PREVENT SUCH OCCURRENCES WAS TO REFORM THE ADMINISTRATION. HE MADE A FERVENT APPEAL TO THE JURY.

...FOR ME IT CAN ONLY BE A MATTER OF A FEW YEARS, BUT FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL LOOK TO YOUR VERDICT AND SEE WHETHER YOU HAVE JUDGED WRONG OR RIGHT. THE VERDICT MAY LIKELY BE A MEMORABLE ONE IN THE HISTORY OF THE FREEDOM OF THE INDIAN PRESS...



WHEN THE JURY FOUND HIM GUILTY —

I MAINTAIN THAT I AM INNOCENT....IT MAY BE THE WILL OF PROVIDENCE THAT THE CAUSE WHICH I REPRESENT MAY PROSPER MORE BY MY SUFFERINGS THAN BY MY REMAINING FREE.



TILAK WAS SENTENCED TO TRANSPORTATION FOR SIX YEARS. IN BOMBAY A SIX-DAY STRIKE WAS OBSERVED AND ALL THE TEXTILE MILLS WERE CLOSED.



THE POLICE FIRED INDISCRIMINATELY AT THE DEMONSTRATORS.



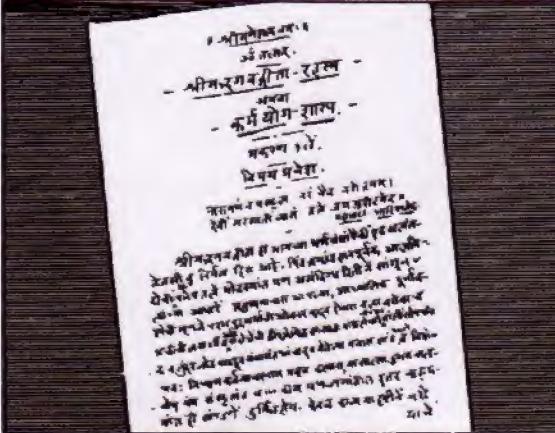
TILAK WAS DEPORTED TO MANDALAY. 'BANDE MATARAM' THE BENGALI WEEKLY, BID HIM A PATHETIC FAREWELL.

GO, TILAK, WHEREVER YOU MAY BE SENT TO CRUSH YOUR BODY... THE CANKER OF THE CHAINS WILL NOT ONLY EAT INTO YOUR LIMBS BUT ALSO INTO EVERY HEART OF THE COUNTRY TO STIR IT UP TO ITS DUTY. YOU HAVE FULFILLED YOUR MISSION...

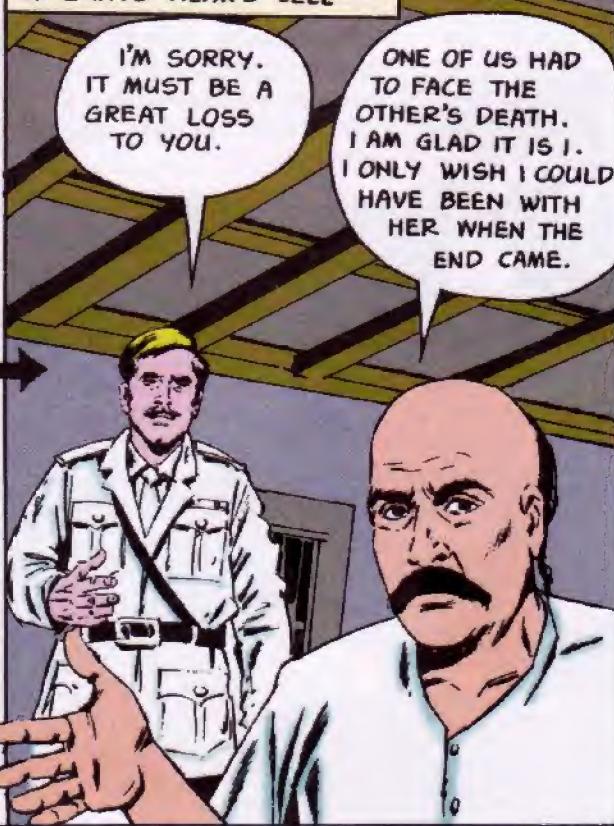
TILAK SPENT FIVE YEARS AND EIGHT MONTHS IN MANDALAY. HIS SOLE COMPANIONS WERE BOOKS AND BIRDS.



HE BEGAN TO WRITE A TREATISE ON THE GITA — THE GITA RAHASYA\*.

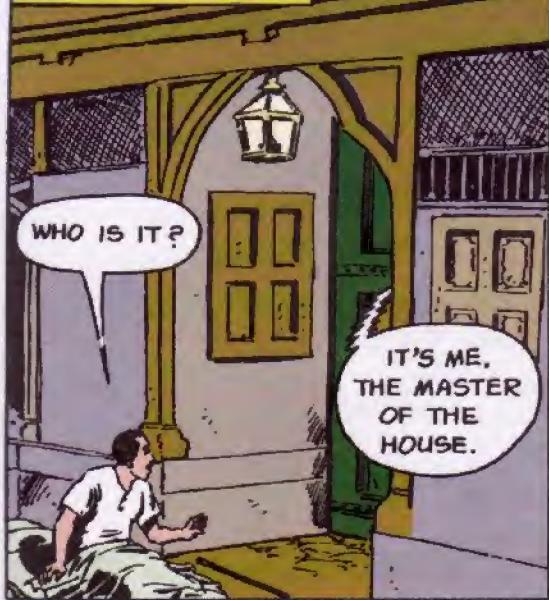


TILAK'S PROLONGED DETENTION TOTALLY UNNERVED HIS WIFE AND SHE DIED WHEN HE WAS IN MANDALAY. WHEN THE JAILOR CAME INTO TILAK'S CELL —



\* THE SECRET OF THE GITA

ON JUNE 17, 1914 AT 2:00 A.M. THERE WAS A KNOCK AT GAIKWAD WADA, TILAK'S RESIDENCE.



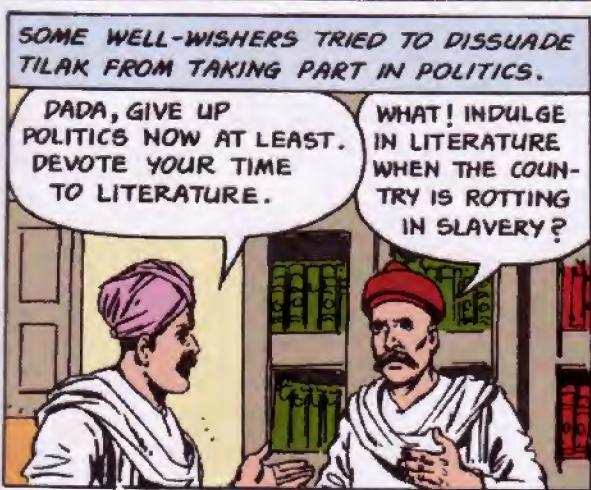
THE WHOLE HOUSEHOLD WOKE UP. TILAK WAS BACK!



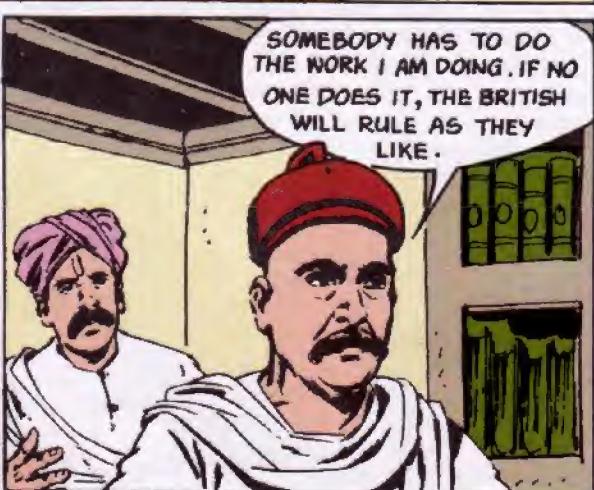
THE NEWS SPREAD. FRIENDS CAME RUNNING TO HIS HOUSE. THEY TALKED TILL DAYBREAK.



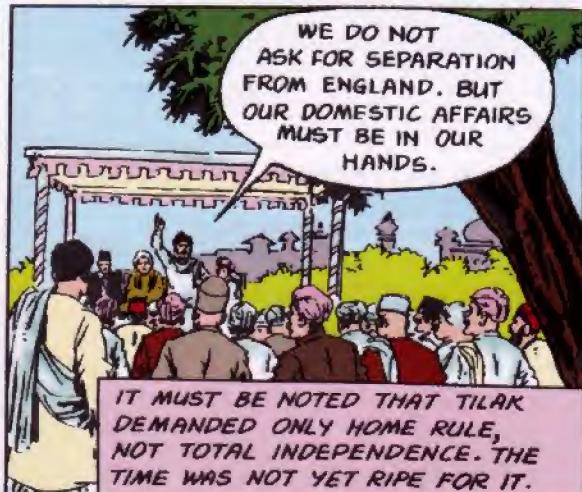
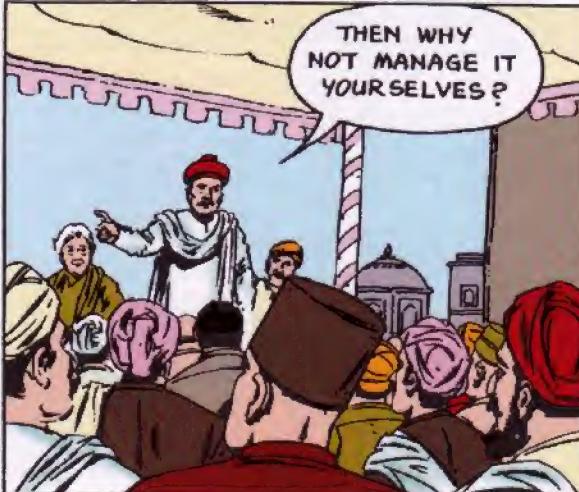
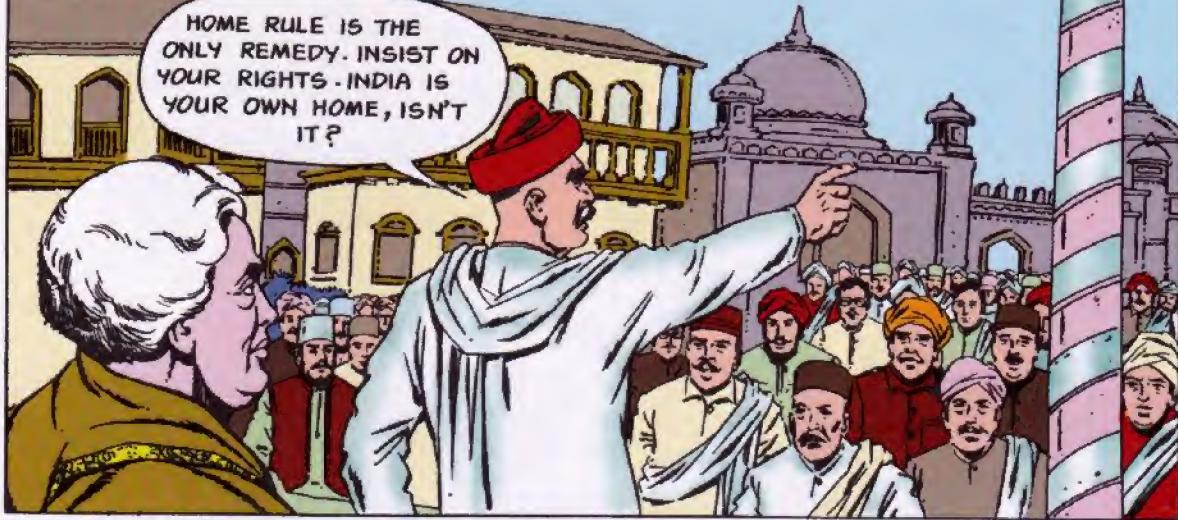
SOME WELL-WISHERS TRIED TO DISSUADE TILAK FROM TAKING PART IN POLITICS.



SOMEBODY HAS TO DO THE WORK I AM DOING. IF NO ONE DOES IT, THE BRITISH WILL RULE AS THEY LIKE.



TILAK TOOK UP THE CAUSE OF HOME RULE, THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO FORM THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT. HE TOURED ALL OVER INDIA AND SPOKE TO THE PEOPLE.



TILAK BY THEN HAD COME TO BE REVERED AS LOKAMANYA\* BY PEOPLE ALL OVER INDIA. WHEN HE WENT TO LUCKNOW TO ATTEND THE CONGRESS SESSION, FOLLOWING THE UNIFICATION OF THE MODERATES AND NATIONALISTS, HE WAS TAKEN OUT IN PROCESSION.



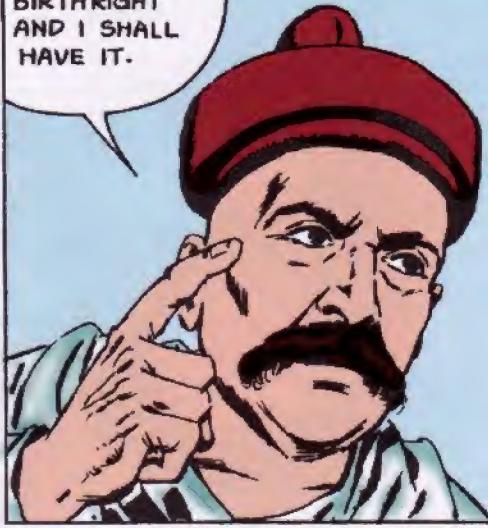
\* RESPECTED BY THE PEOPLE

SOME ENTHUSIASTIC YOUTHS UNHARNESSED THE HORSES AND DREW THE CARRIAGE THEMSELVES.



AT THE LUCKNOW CONGRESS —

SWARAJ IS MY BIRTHRIGHT AND I SHALL HAVE IT.



LATER, TILAK VISITED ENGLAND TO PRESENT INDIA'S CASE FOR HOME RULE...



...AND WON MANY FRIENDS, NOTABLY FROM THE LABOUR PARTY.

ON AUGUST 1, 1920, EXACTLY EIGHT MONTHS AFTER HIS RETURN TO INDIA, TILAK DIED. BUT THE CAUSE FOR WHICH HE FOUGHT WAS TAKEN UP BY MILLIONS OF HIS COUNTRYMEN.

BRITISHERS, QUIT INDIA!

